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VERSION FRANÇAISE

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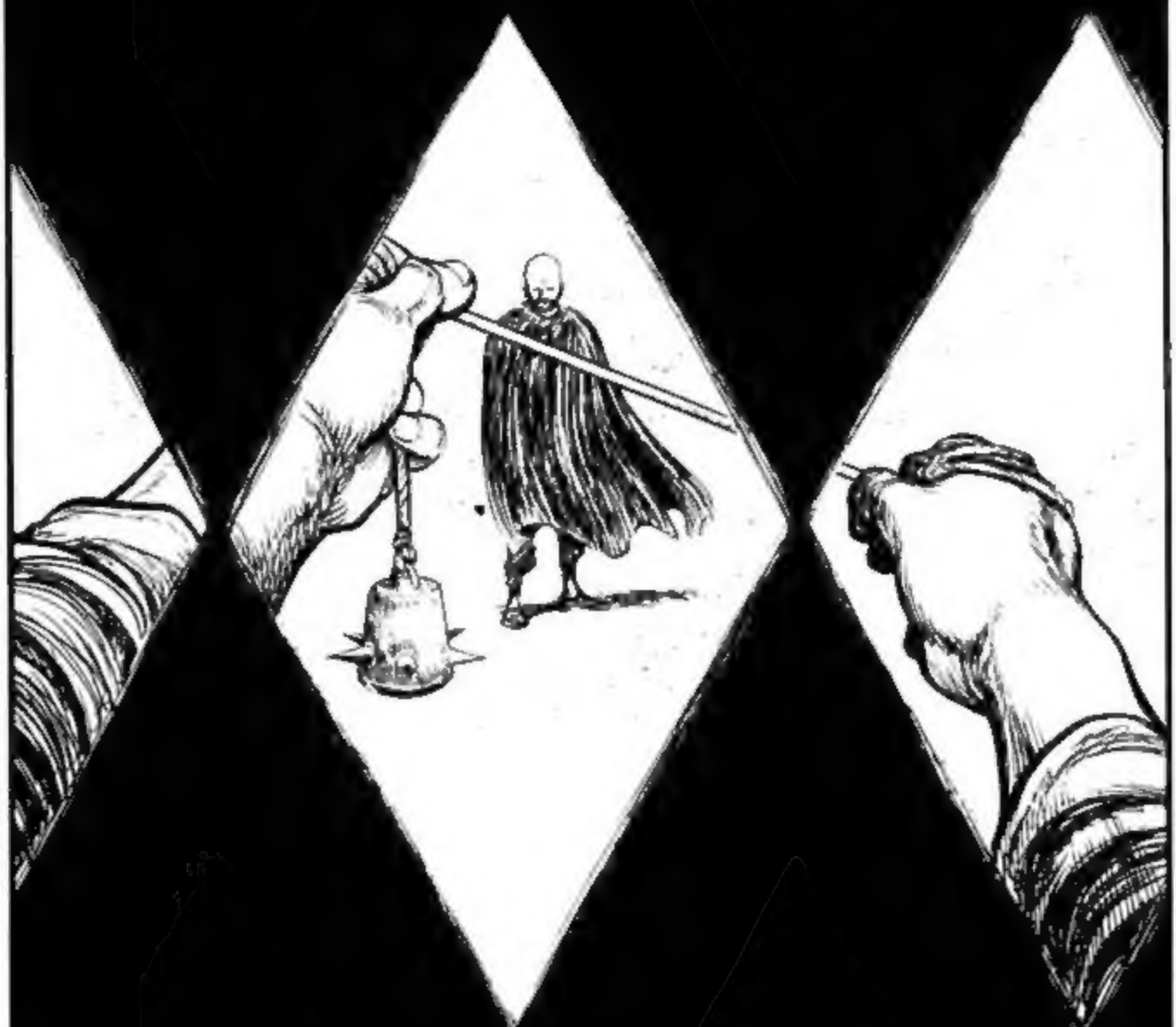
Kenichi Sakemi

Hideki Mori

BOKKO



BOKKO
VOL 06:
THE RATS

CHAPTER 01

THE INSECT DIVISION . . . . . P. 5

CHAPTER 02

A FRIEND . . . . . P. 29

CHAPTER 03

THE RATS . . . . . P. 49

CHAPTER 04

HUNTING DOWN THE DOUBLES . . . . . P. 73

CHAPTER 05

THE ERUPTION . . . . . P. 95

CHAPTER 06

WHO ARE THE RATS? . . . . . P. 115

CHAPTER 07

THE BURNING WATER . . . . . P. 139

CHAPTER 08

THE TORTURE . . . . . P. 159

CHAPTER 09

THE RESCUE . . . . . P. 179

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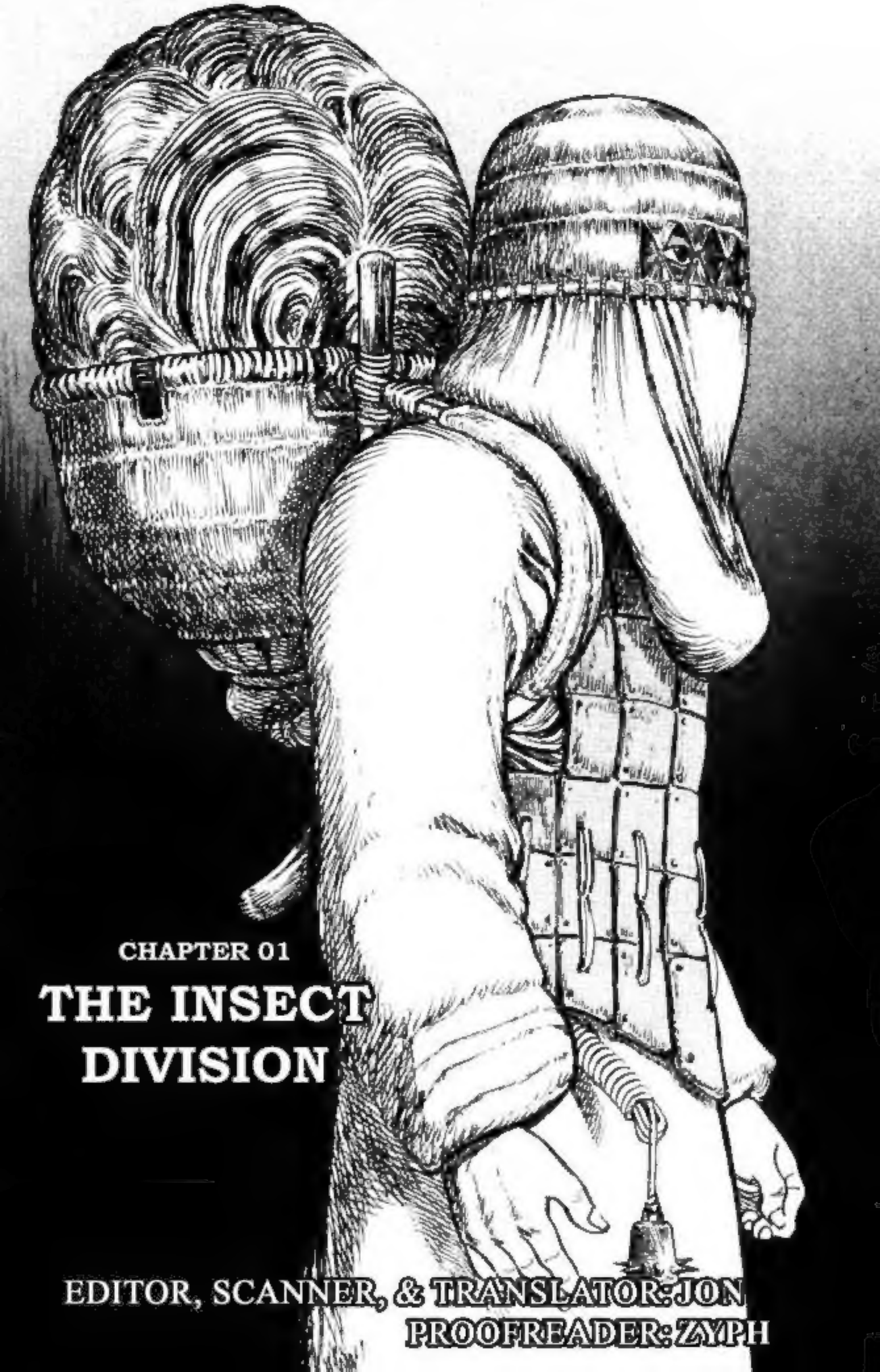
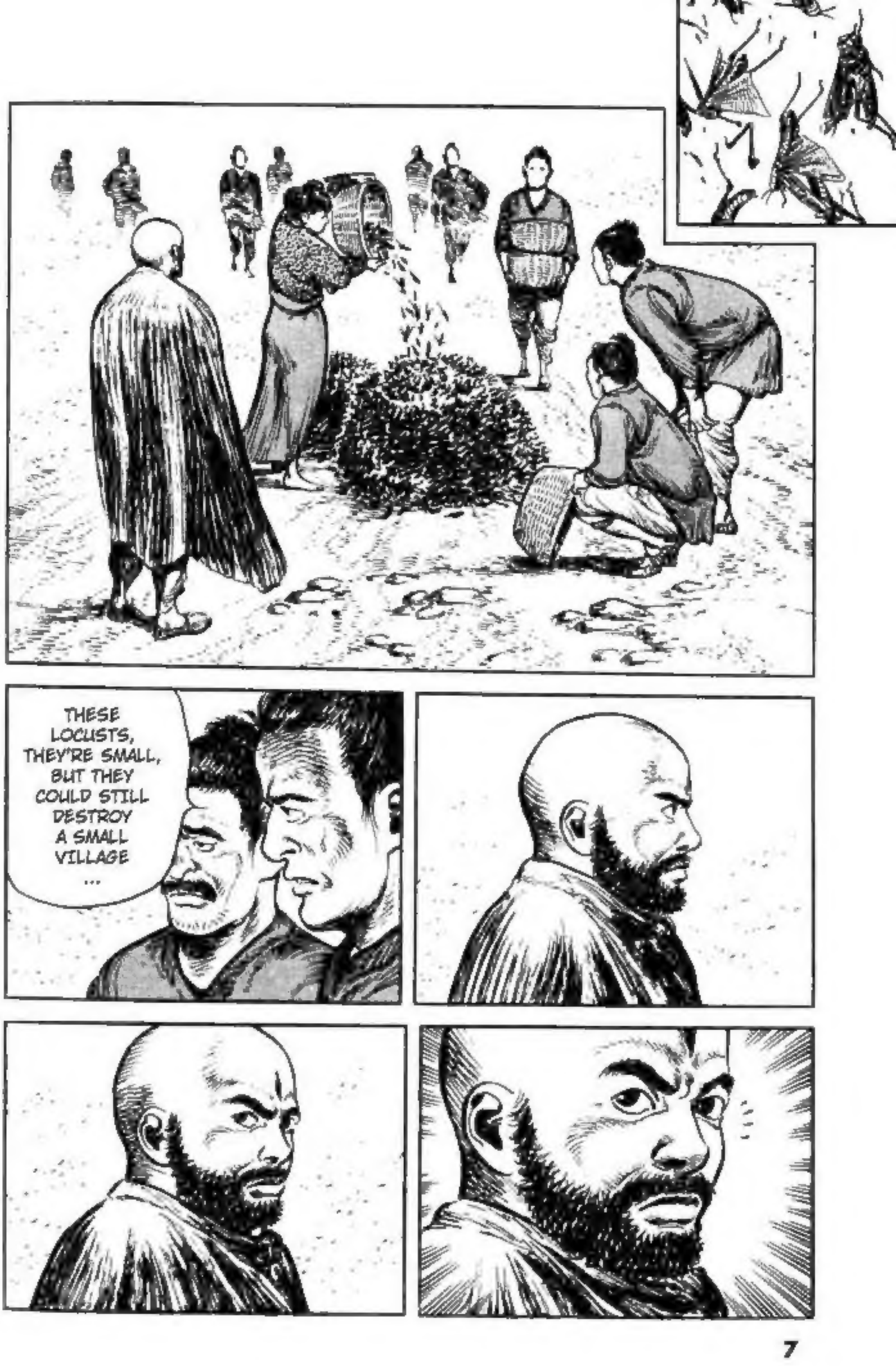


CHAPTER 01

THE INSECT DIVISION

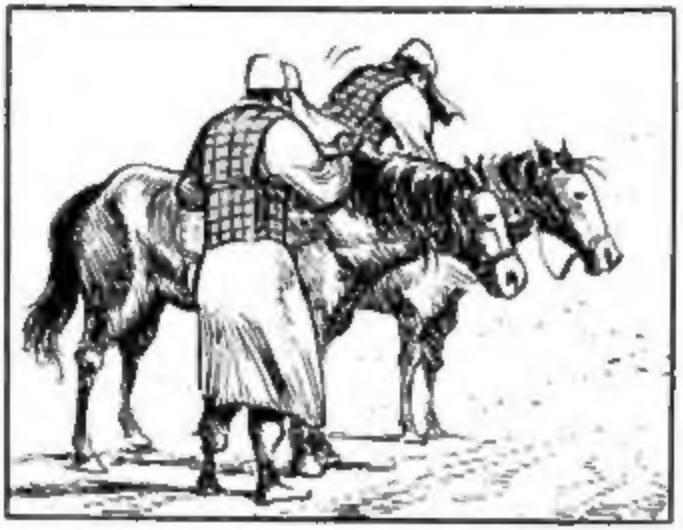
EDITOR, SCANNER, & TRANSLATOR: JON
PROOFREADER: ZYPH


THESE LOCUSTS, THEY'RE SMALL, BUT THEY COULD STILL DESTROY A SMALL VILLAGE ...

DZA
DZA

DZA

YOU THERE, WHO ARE YOU?



HIOUOU
OU
OU
WAAH!
TAP
TAP
CHILDREN, QUICKLY, RETURN TO YOUR HOUSES!

DZA
DZA
SZAH
YOU CAN'T JUST ENTER OUR VILLAGE LIKE THIS!

WE'RE JUST PASSING BY!
WE'RE ONLY HERE FOR THE INSECTS
?
WHAT'S THAT ON HIS BACK?

WHAT DID YOU FIND?
I FOUND SOME EGGS!
?
WHEN DID THE LOCUSTS GET HERE?
THEY CAME YESTERDAY

DZA
DZA
OUF
THEY LEFT!
HEY, WAIT! WHO ARE YOU?
YUNJI! LET IT GO!!
KA... KAKURI!

WHAT'S HE DOING HERE?
DO THESE PEOPLE KNOW YOU KAKURI?
THESE FELLOWS KNOW ME ...
BECAUSE THEY ARE FROM THE BOKK CLAN!
TSAH !

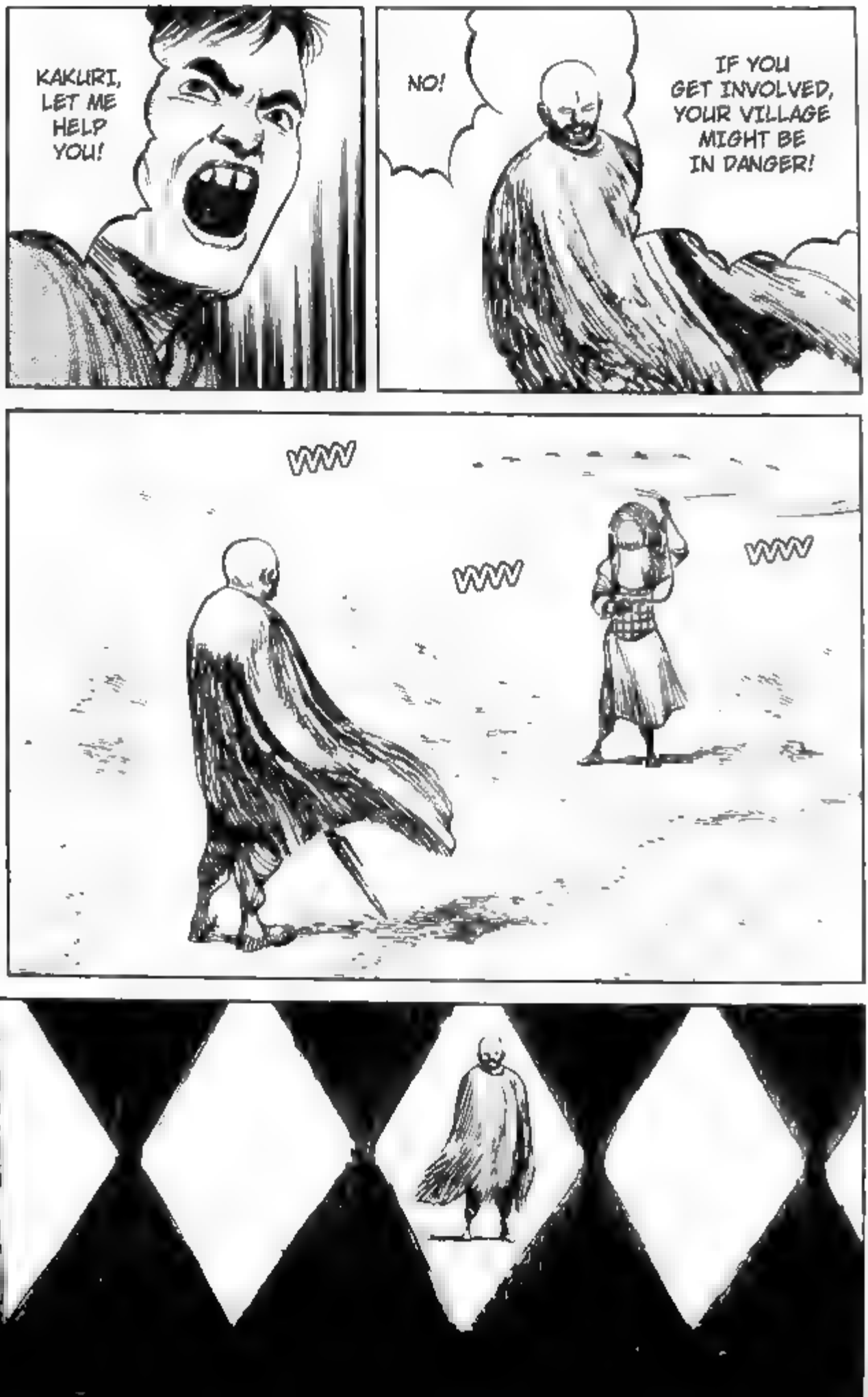
AS SOON AS YOU FIND HIM, KILL HIM!
TA
TA
TA
TA
TA
THOSE ARE THE ORDERS OF LORD SETSUHEI!

DIE !!!

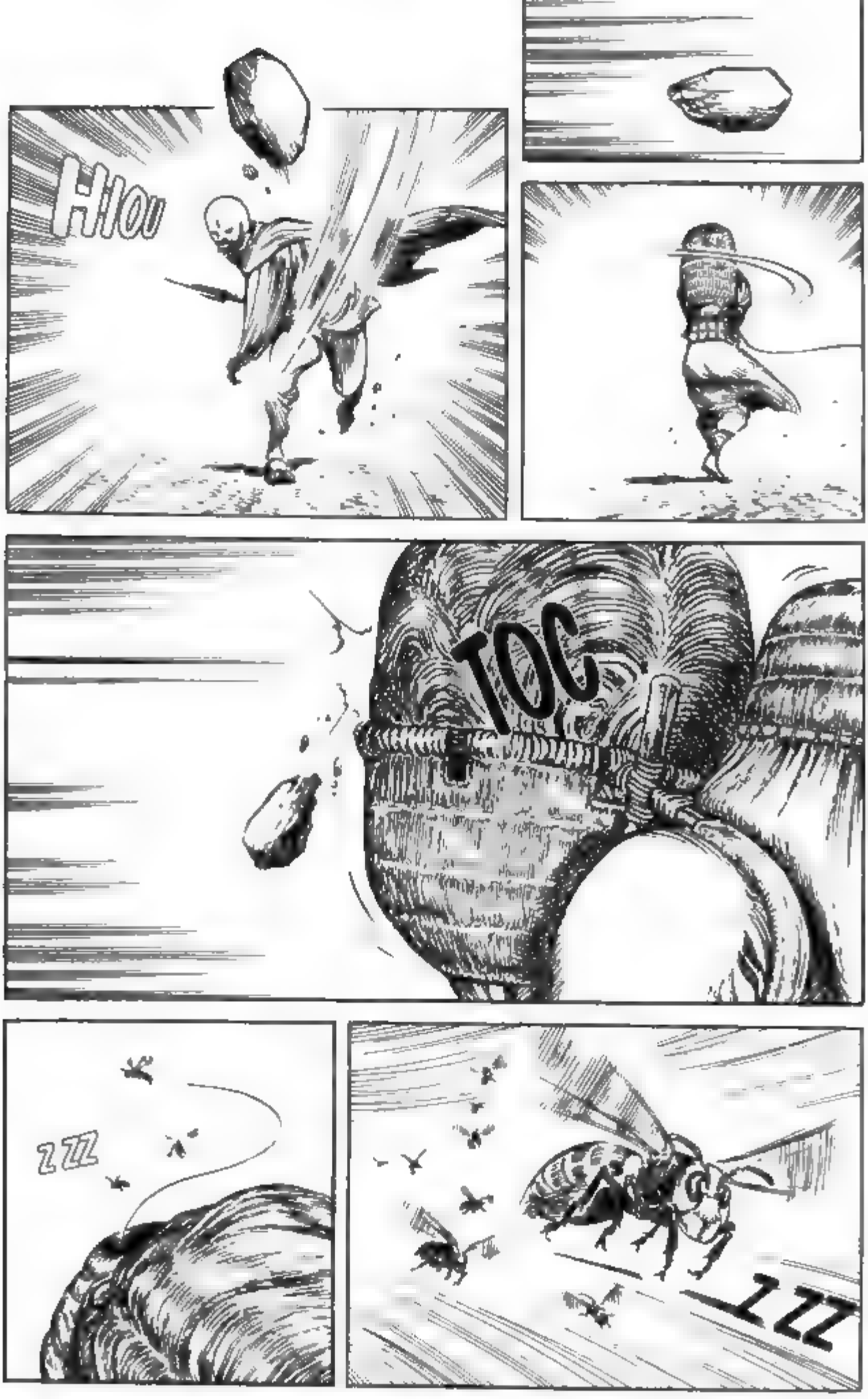
ZZZAAH

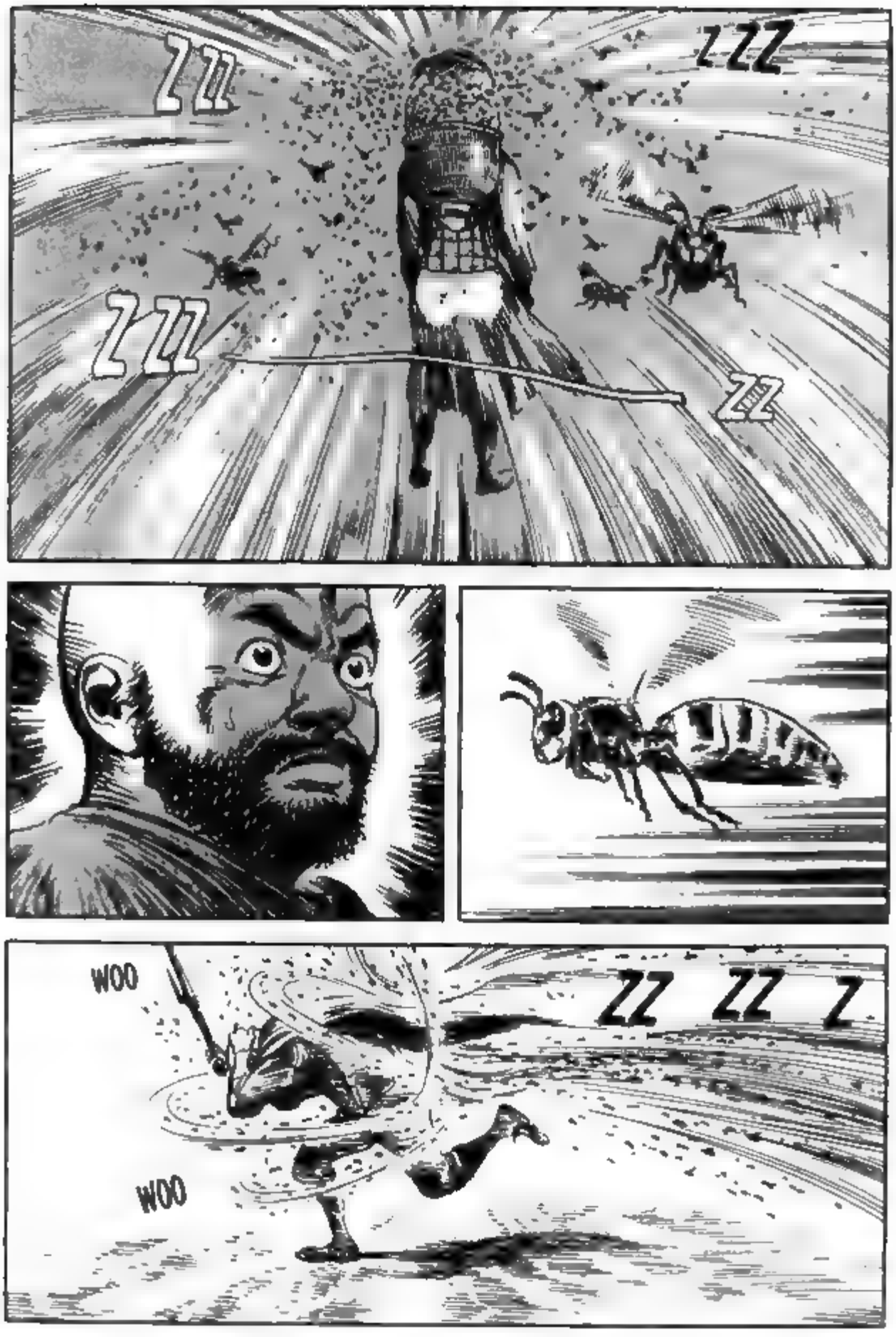
WAAH!
HE KILLED HIM!
I THOUGHT I KNEW HIM WELL. BUT NOW I UNDERSTAND... HE MUST'VE SEEN SO MANY PEOPLE DIE!!
BASTARD!
TSAH !
CLAC !

GHY
AAA
AAH
!!!
GRRRR


KAKURI, LET ME HELP YOU!
NO!
IF YOU GET INVOLVED, YOUR VILLAGE MIGHT BE IN DANGER!

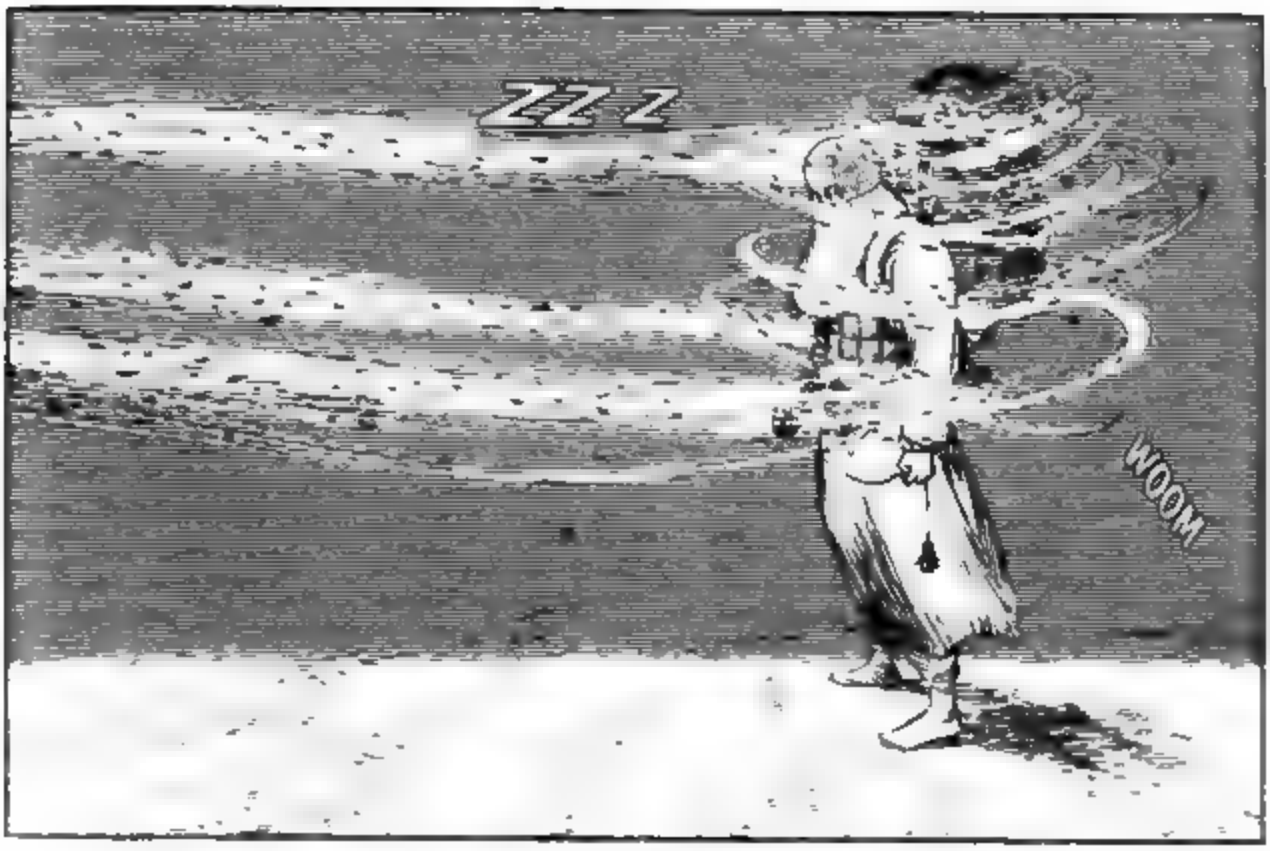
THEY'LL CONTINUE TO USE LOCUSTS TO INVADE OTHER COUNTRIES ...
I WAS SURE THEY'D COME AND COLLECT THE EGGS, AND NOW THEY'RE HERE!


HIOU
TOC
ZZZ
ZZZ


ZZ
ZZZ
ZZZ
ZZ
WOO
WOO
ZZ ZZ Z

ZZZZ
HE CARRIES A BEE-HIVE.. HE MUST BELONG TO THE TROOP CALLED "THE INSECTS"
KAKURI!
YUNJI! STAY OUT OF THIS!
ZZZ
ZZ
ZZ

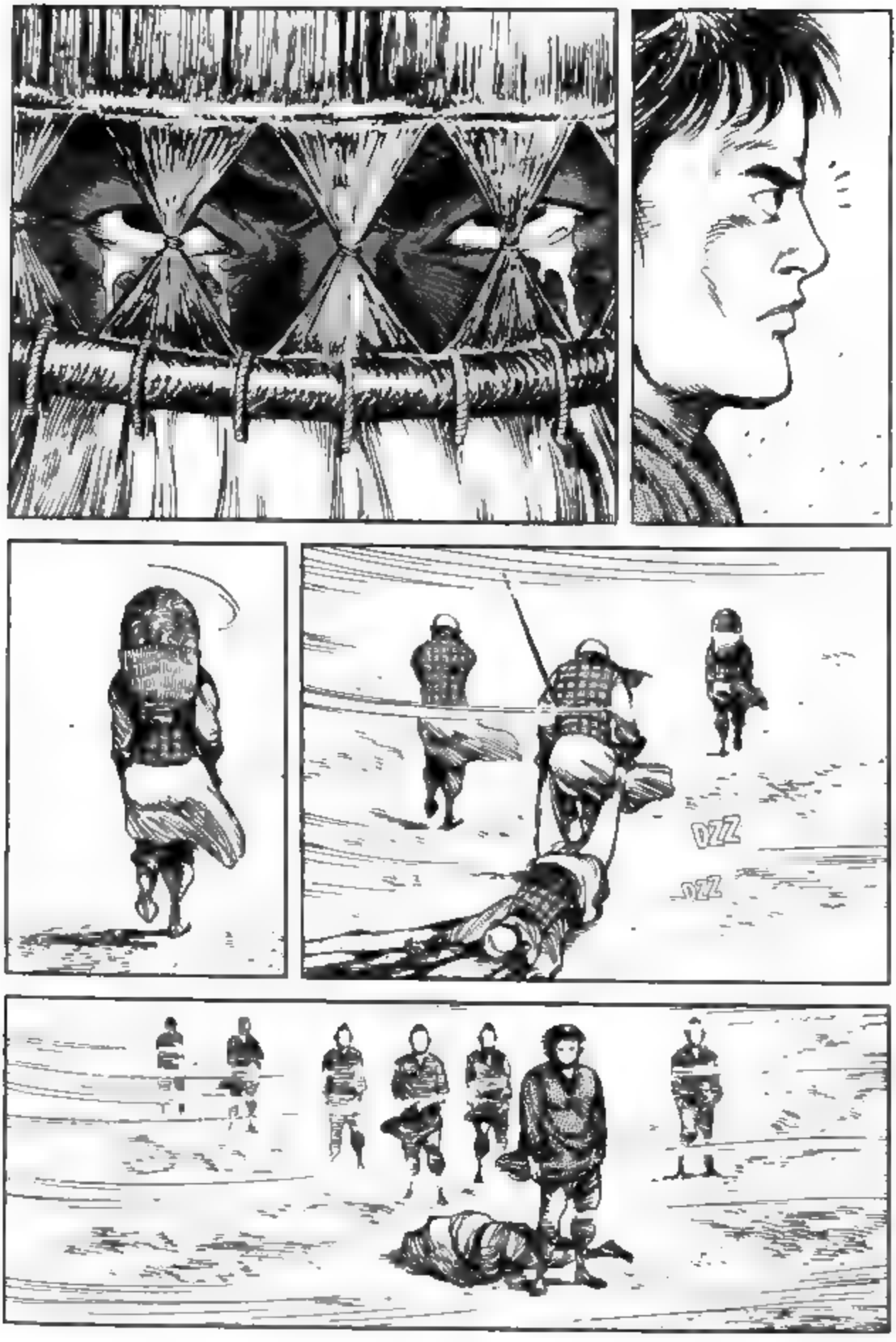
ZZZ


ZZZ
WOOM

SHIT
!!!
YUNJI!
TSAH

TA
TA
TA

DZA
I WON'T LET YOU HURT KAKURI NO MORE!!
TAH
SSS
DON'T! LET HIM BE!
WHY?
I SAID LET HIM BE!
Y-YES, SIR!


DZZ
DZZ

HIOOOU
HIOOOU

THE MYSTERIOUS TROOP THAT HAD APPEARED IN FRONT OF KAKURI WAS THE INSECT DIVISION. BUT WHY DID THE MAN CRY? THE THREE MEN LEFT A LOT OF UNANSWERED QUESTIONS BEHIND THEM!

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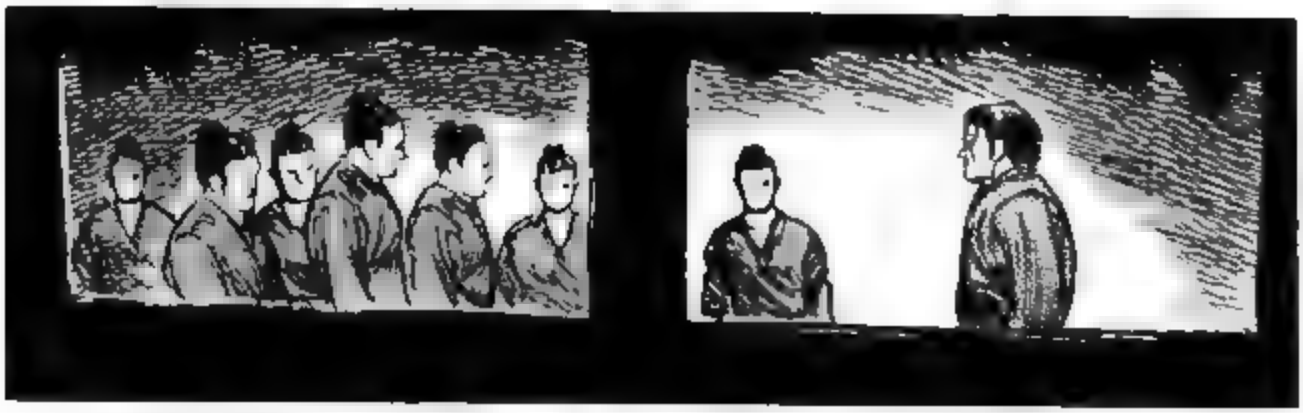
CHAPTER 02
A FRIEND

EDITOR, SCANNER, & TRANSLATOR: JON
PROOFREADER: ZYPH



WHAT? FORCE KAKURI TO LEAVE?
HE HASN'T EVEN REGAINED CONSCIOUS-NESS!!

FIRST LOCUSTS, THEN THE MAN WE SAW A FEW MOMENTS AGO, ARMED WITH BEES ...
IF WE LET HIM STAY, THEN WHO KNOWS WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN?
WE DISCUSSED THIS, AND EVERYONE AGREES!
YOU CAN'T STOP US, YUNJI!!
EVERYONE? I HAVEN'T HEARD OF ANY DISCUSSION?
AND YOU ALL FEEL THE SAME? ..
EH, WELL, BUT ... IT'S ALREADY LATE, WE'LL DECIDE TOMORROW!

YUNJI, WE ALL KNOW WHY YOU SYMPATHIZE WITH STRANGERS ..
BUT IF YOU WANT TO LIVE IN THIS VILLAGE, YOU MUST OBEY OUR RULES!
.....

YUNJI REMEMBERS HIS CHILDHOOD...

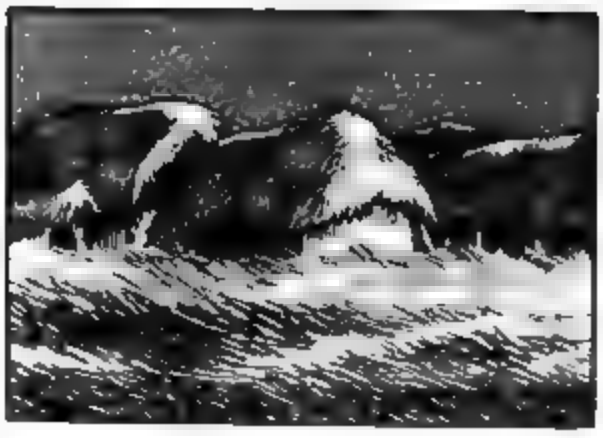
DAD!!
HEY, THERE'S A DEAD STRANGER OVER HERE!
OUININ
OUININ

THERE, THERE
YOU CAN STAY WITH US IN OUR VILLAGE!

HEY KID! NOW YOU BELONG TO OUR VILLAGE
IF YOU WANT TO STAY, OBEY OUR RULES!

THE SON OF A STRANGER WILL ALWAYS BE A SON OF A STRANGER

KYAAAAH!



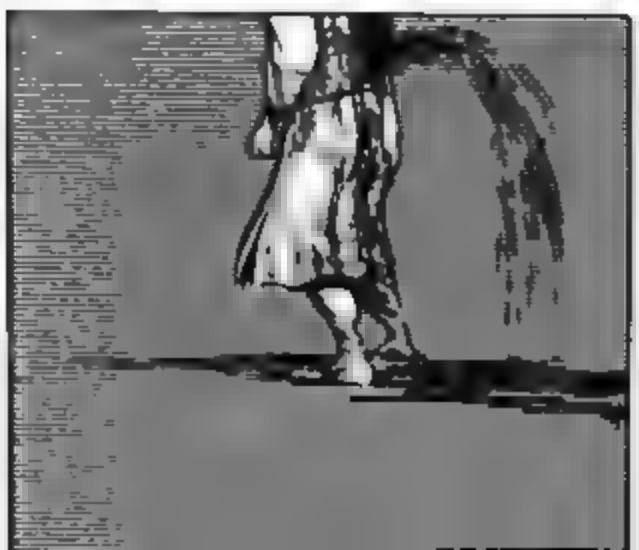
!?

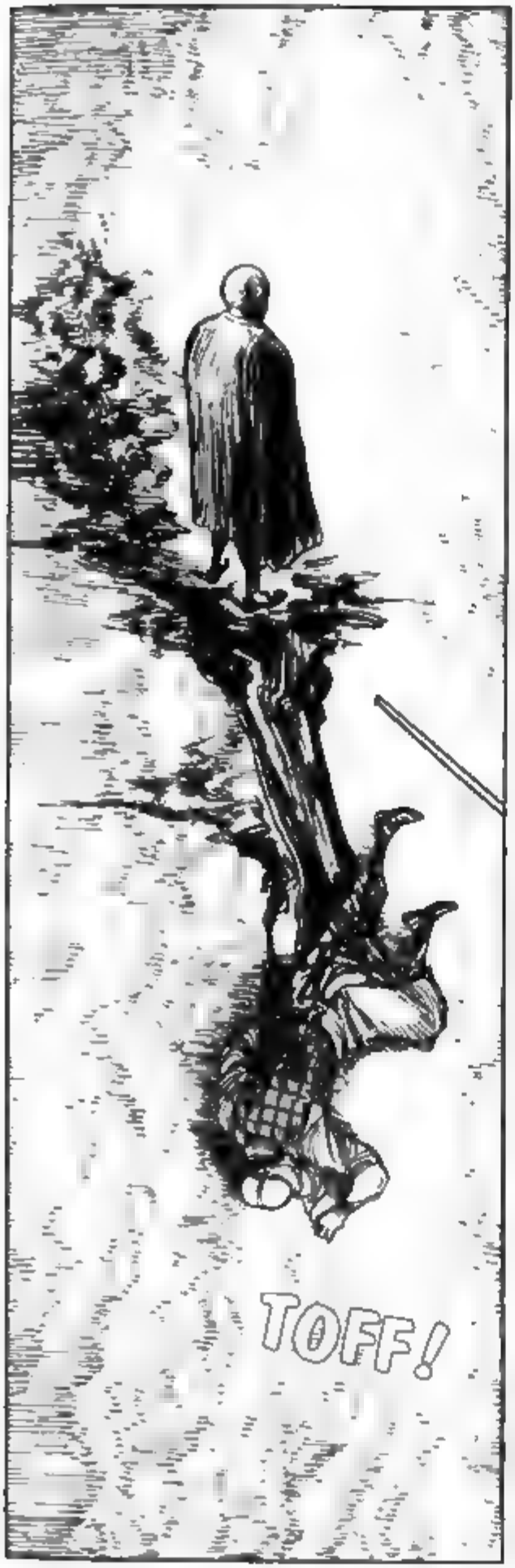
DZA
DZA
WHERE'S KAKURI? IF YOU PROTECT HIM, WE WILL SHOW YOU NO MERCY!
DZA
DZA
WE HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH KAKURI!
KAKURI!

AAH!
TSAH
PAAH
TA
TA
TA

YUNJI!
TAC!
JYAAAA

DJUUH




TOFF!

THANK YOU FOR EVERY-THING!
I WILL BE LEAVING NOW!

DZA
DZA
DZA
DZA
!!

AND NOW, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
I'LL GO WHEREVER I WANT TO GO!

DZA
DZA
DZA
I'LL GO WITH YOU!

A FRIEND WHO OFFERS A HELPING HAND WHEN YOU'RE IN DANGER IS A TRUE FRIEND
NOW, KAKURI, THE LONE WOLF, HAD GOTTEN A YOUNG CUB TO ACCOMPANY HIM ON HIS JOURNEY

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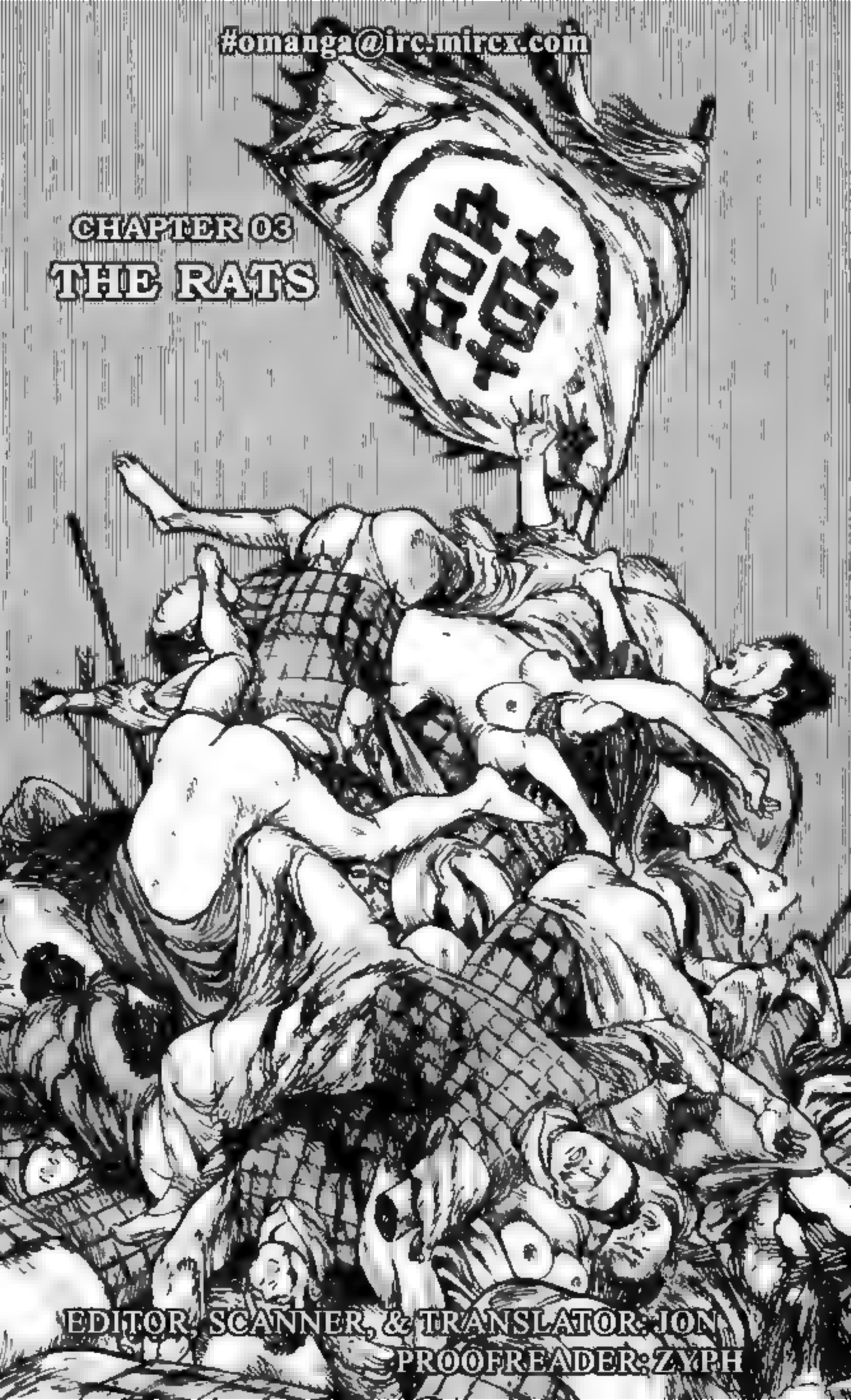

CHAPTER 03

THE RATS

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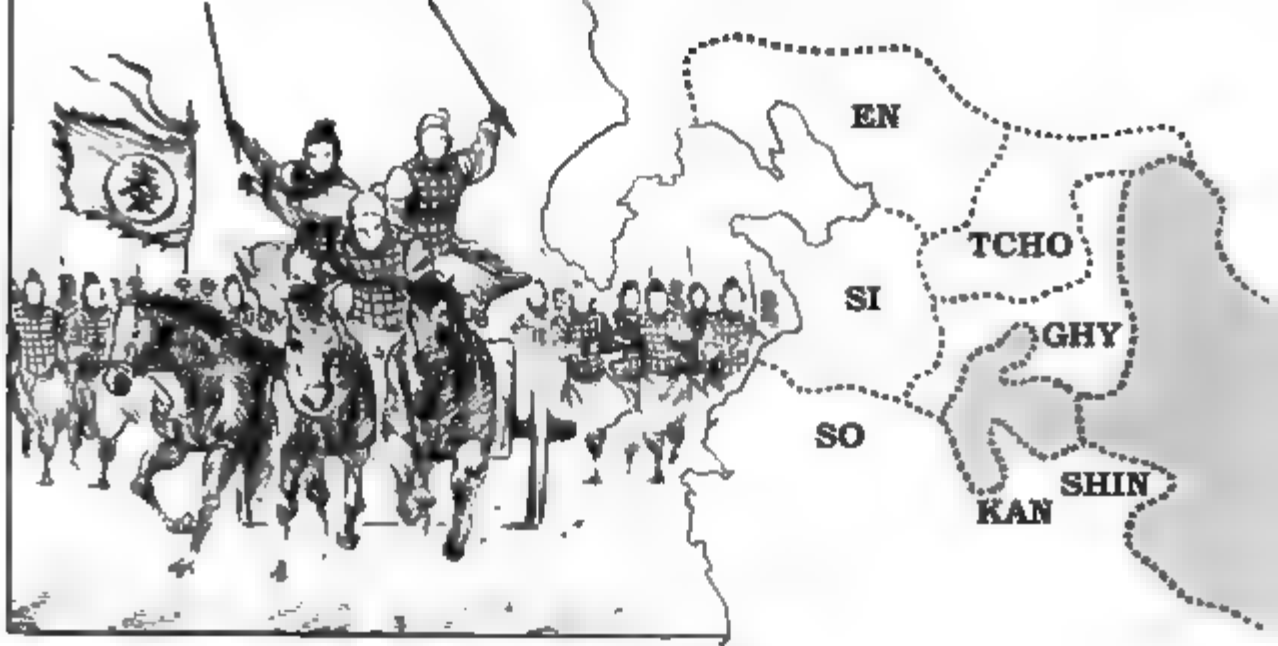
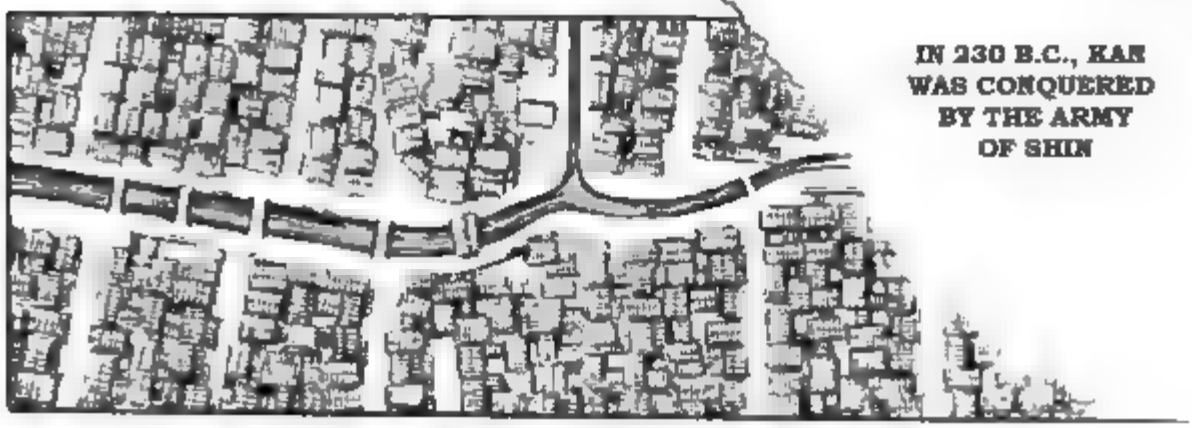
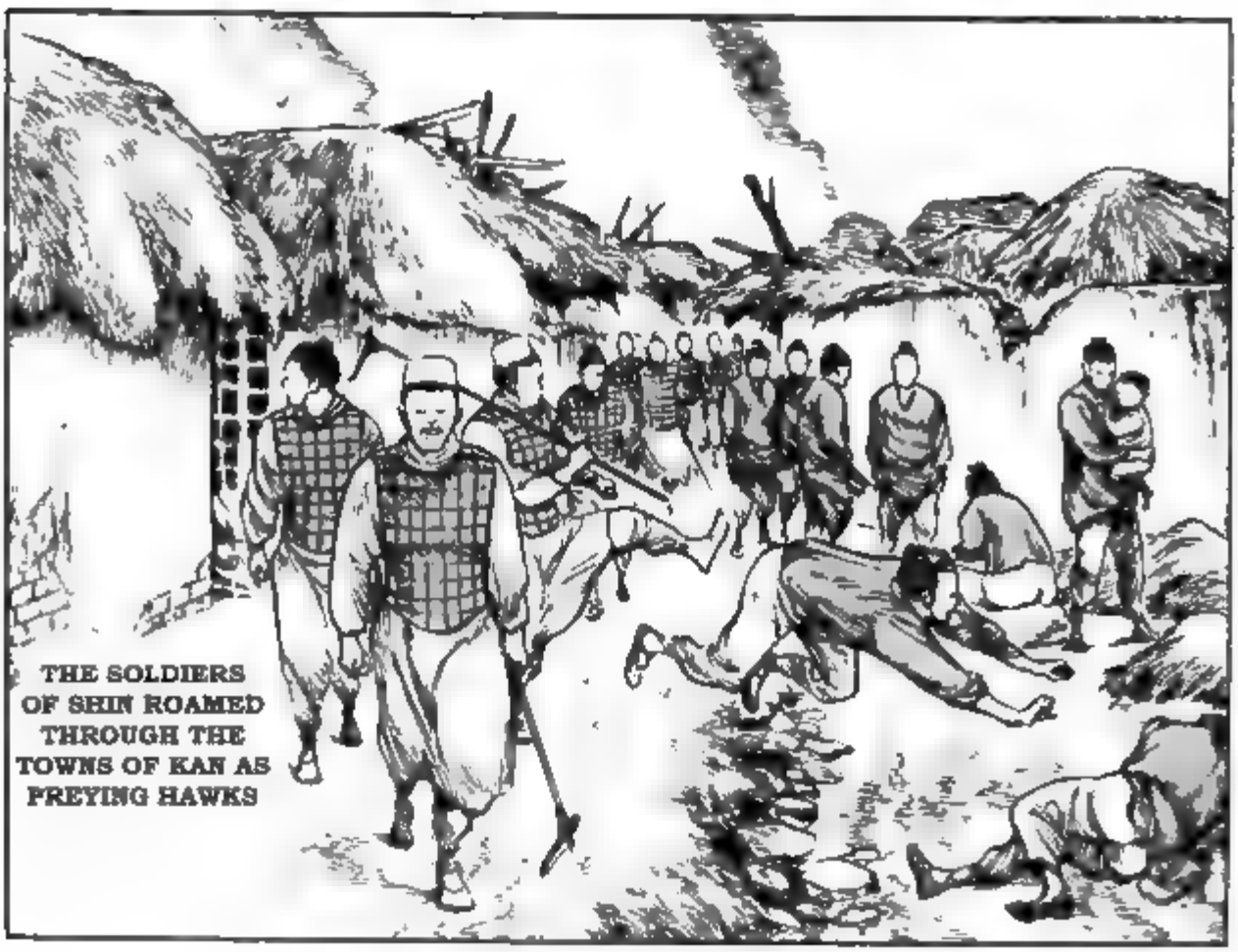
PROOFREADER: ZYPH





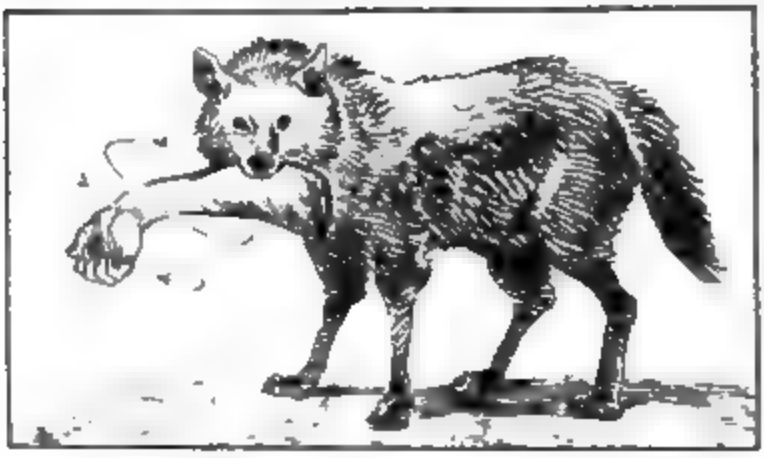
IN 230 B.C., KAN WAS CONQUERED BY THE ARMY OF SHIN



THE SOLDIERS OF SHIN ROAMED THROUGH THE TOWNS OF KAN AS PREYING HAWKS

OZA
OZA
OZAH
KAKURI AND YUNJI WERE IN ONE OF THEM
ZZ Z
THERE'S SO MANY FLIES!
THEY'RE HERE BECAUSE OF ALL THE CORPSES

TO HELP AND NOT USE YOUR KNOWLEDGE FOR YOUR OWN GOOD WERE THE TWO MAIN PRINCIPLES OF THE BOKK CLAN. THE CLAN NO LONGER FOLLOWED THESE PRINCIPLES. BY ALLYING WITH THE COUNTRY OF SHIN IN ORDER TO CONQUER ALL THE OTHER COUNTRIES, THE CLAN HAD STARTED TO EVOLVE
KAKURI DID NOT APPROVE OF IT
BUT, FACING THE ENORMOUS POWER OF SHIN AND THE BOKK CLAN, YUNJI AND KAKURI WERE BUT TWO ANTS FACING A TIGER

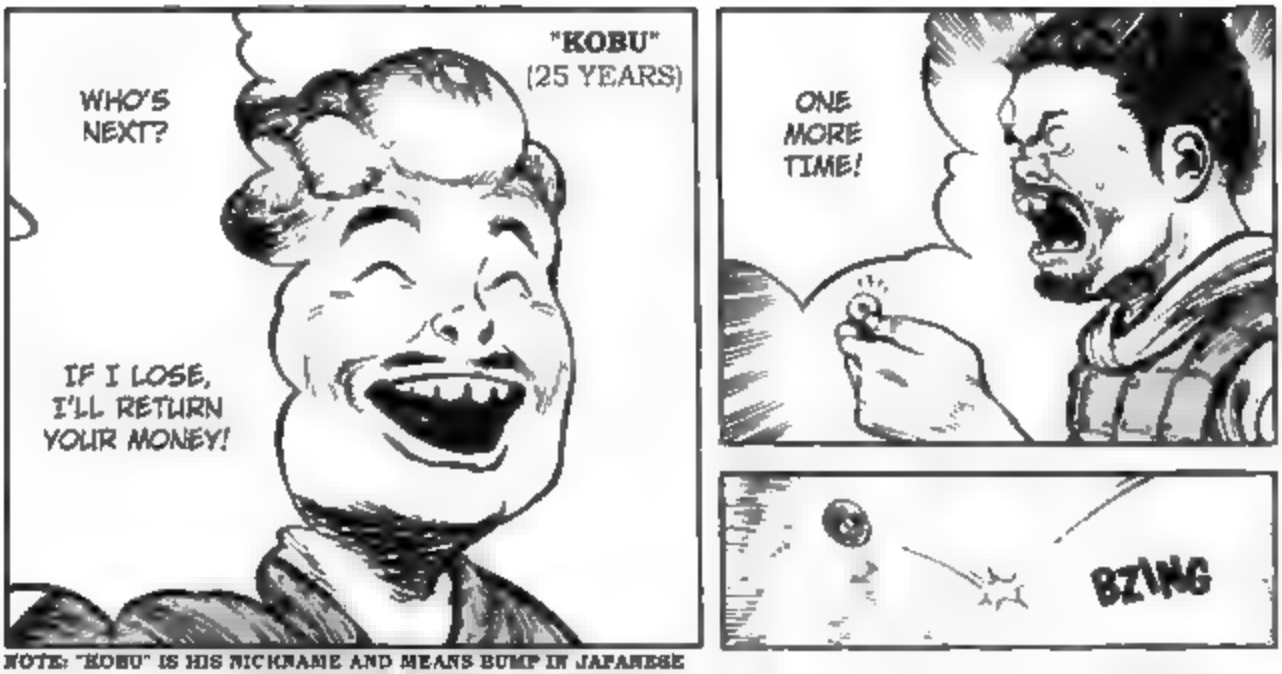


WE NEED SOME STRONG, INTELLIGENT ALLIES!

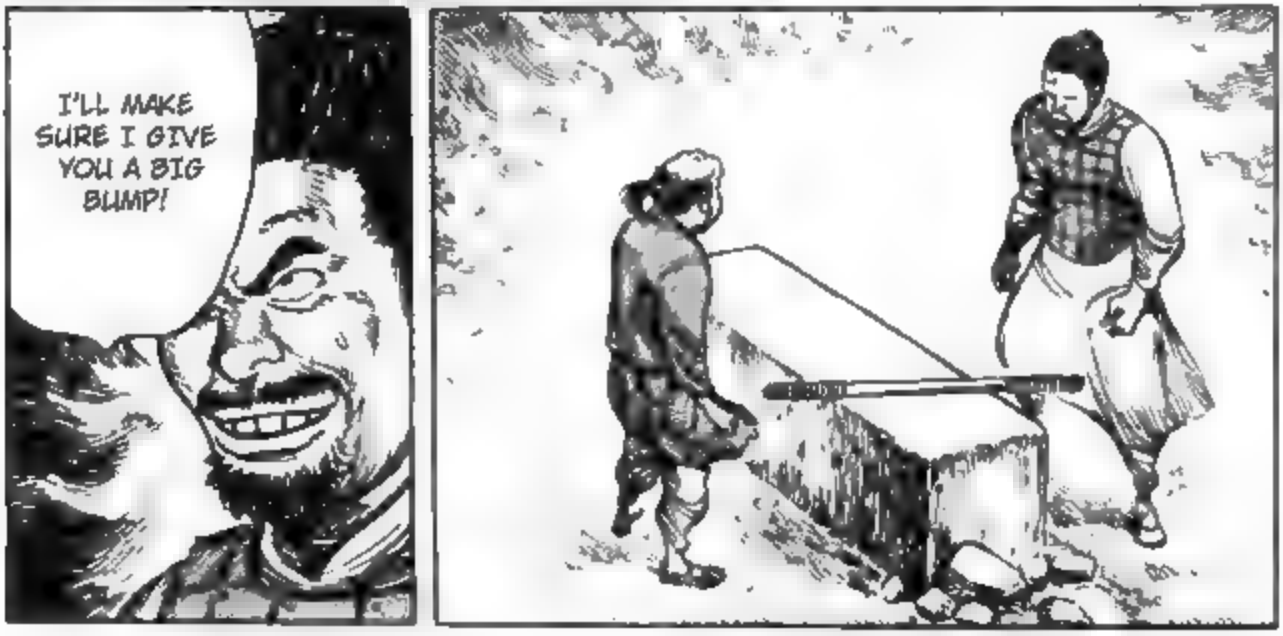
IT WOULD BE TO EASIER TO SNEAK INTO SOME OTHER COUNTRY. THERE'S A LOT OF SOLDIERS FROM SHIN AND MEN OF BOKK HERE. IF WE ARE FOUND OUT, OUR HEADS WILL FLY ..

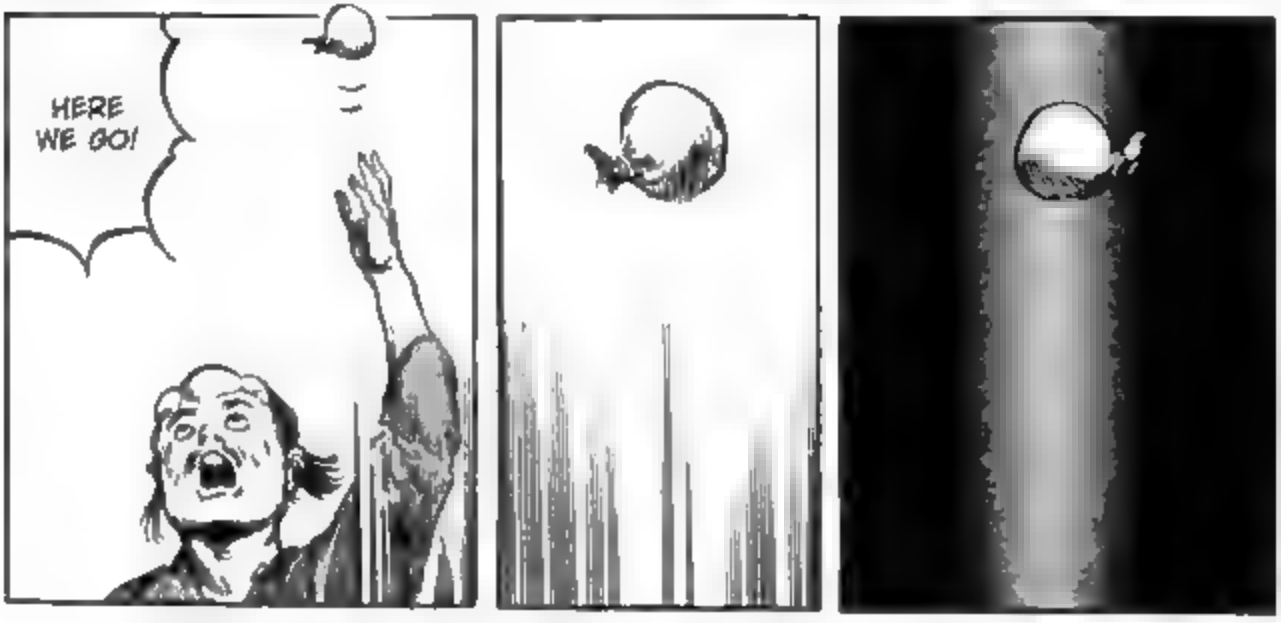
YOU'RE WRONG! THE REASON WE'RE HERE, IS TO FIND PEOPLE WHO HATE SHIN, AND THERE'S NO BETTER PLACE THAN HERE TO FIND THEM!

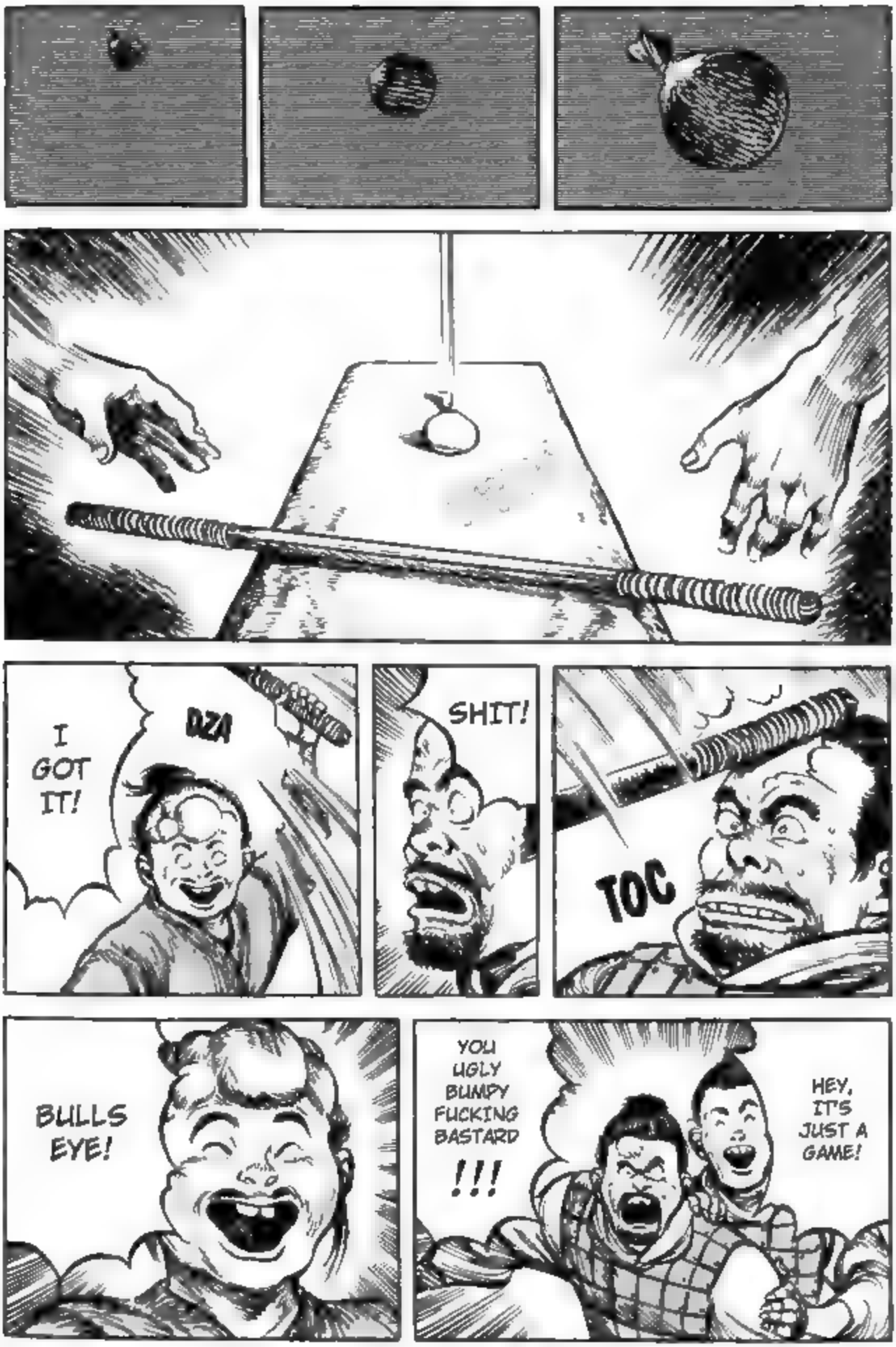
YOU THINK THAT WE WILL FIND SOMEONE LIKE THAT HERE? EVERYONE HERE'S DEVASTATED BY THE DEFEAT, THEY'VE ALL LOST THEIR FIGHTING SPIRIT!
THIS CITY IS DOOMED!
RYAA AAH!
Toc
HAH HA HA HA!



NOTE: "KOBU" IS HIS NICKNAME AND MEANS BUMP IN JAPANESE






I GOT IT!
DZA
SHIT!
TOC
BULLS EYE!
YOU UGLY BUMPY FUCKING BASTARD !!!
HEY, IT'S JUST A GAME!

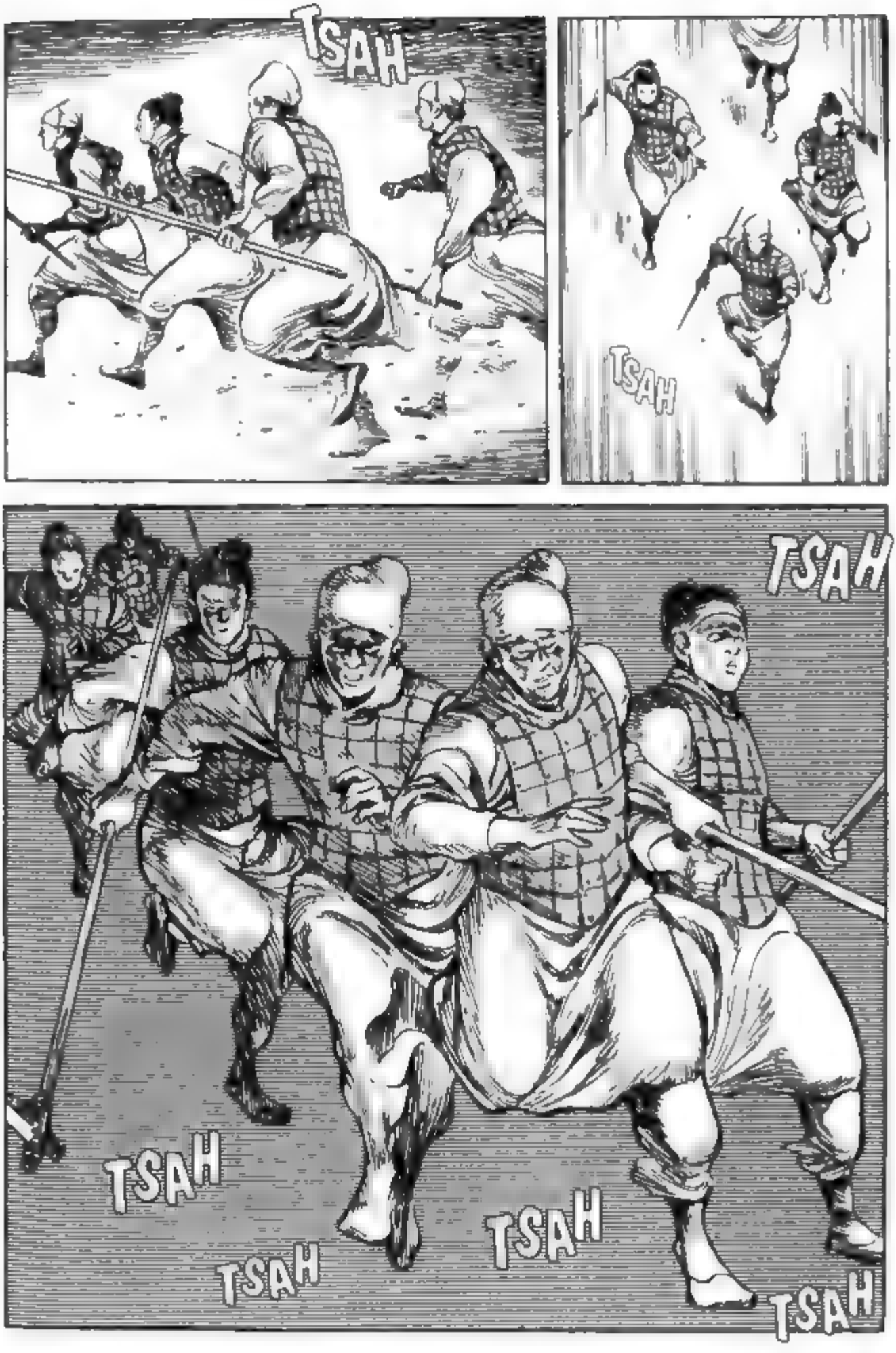
YOU WILL SEE! TOMORROW I WILL SPLIT YOUR CRANIUM
WAIT, TWO UN-FAMILIAR FACES ...
DZA
DZA
WE'RE TRAVELLERS ..
I'VE SEEN MANY PEOPLE LEAVE THIS CITY,
BUT PEOPLE COMING, THAT'S BIZARRE!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S BIZARRE! PLAYING GAMES LIKE THAT WITH THE SOLDIERS OF SHIN
I WAS A SIMPLE PEASANT BUT ...

I HAD MY HARVEST DEVOURED BY THE GRASSHOPPERS, MY WHOLE FAMILY KILLED BY THE SOLDIERS OF SHIN, I HAVEN'T GOT A HOME, BUT SO WHAT!
AND YOU CAN JUST LAUGH IT OFF?
I LOATHE THESE MEN
THEY JUST SMILE AT THE ENEMY, HOW PATHETIC ...
AT LEAST I BEAT THE SOLDIERS OF SHIN WITH MY STICK!
IT'D BE BETTER TO DO NOTHING!

IT'S BETTER THAN ACTING LIKE A WHIPPED DOG ...

STRANGE GUY! I DON'T THINK HE'S THE KIND OF MAN WE'RE AFTER
HE FIGHTS IN HIS OWN WAY
THERE MUST BE OTHERS, WHO TRY TO RESIST MORE VIOLENTLY
WA
WA
WAAAH!
TAP
TAP
WHAT THE HELL ...

WOOOH
IT'S ON FIRE!
ANOTHER ATTACK BY "THE RATS", THIS TIME THEY'VE TARGETED THE BARRACKS OF SHIN'S ARMY
THE RATS ?


TSAH
TSAH
TSAH
TSAH
TSAH
TSAH
TSAH

THE RATS? WHAT IS THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
THE LAST RESISTANCE!
HOW MANY ARE THEY?
NOBODY KNOWS WHO OR HOW MANY THEY ARE!
DURING THE NIGHT, THEY START FIRES OR ATTACK THE SOLDIERS OF SHIN
YOU TWO, OVER THERE!
WHO ARE YOU?

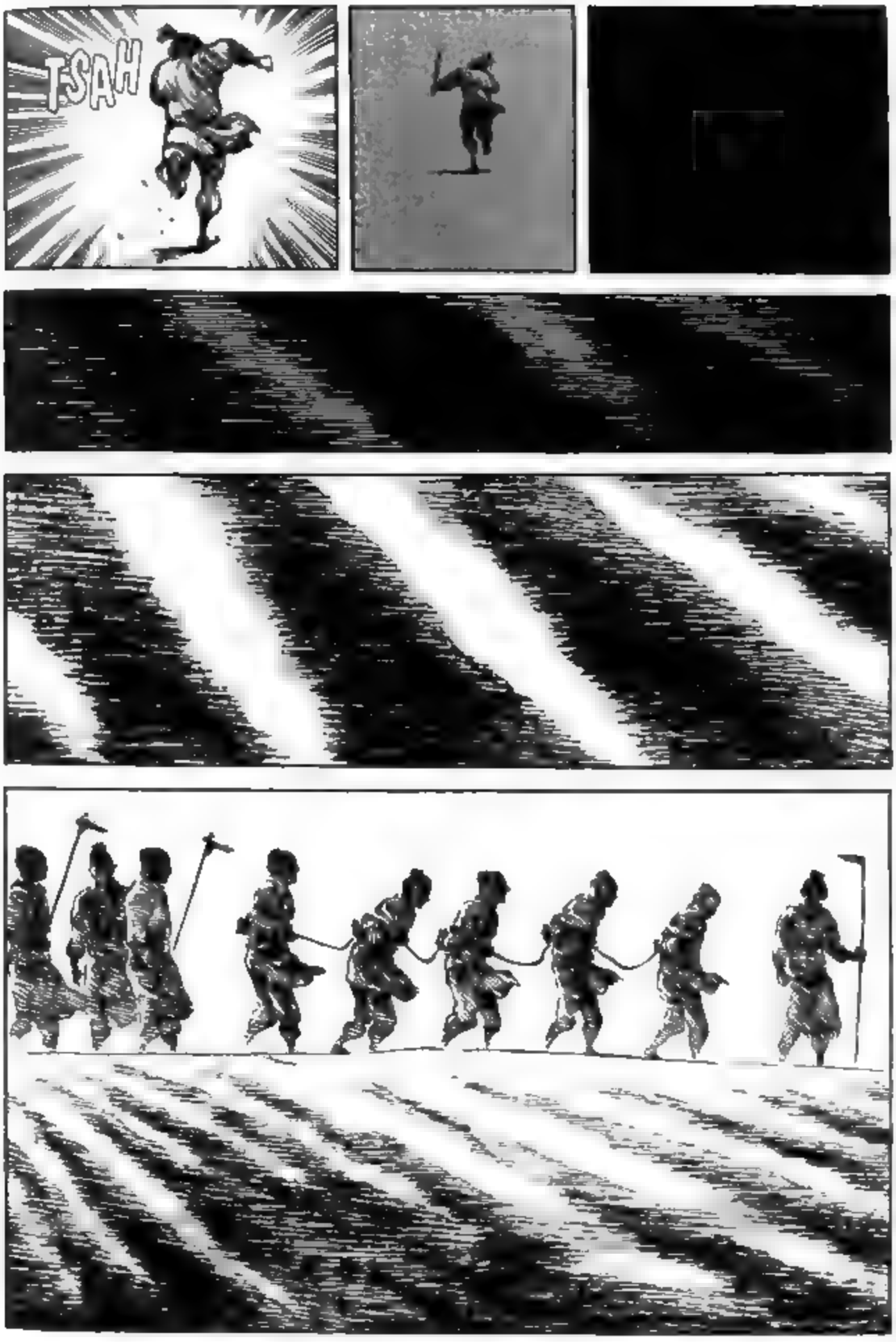
DZA
DZA
DZA
DZA
DZA

NO PROBLEM, I KNOW THEM WELL!
AH, I SEE!
DAMN THESE RATS!
HEY! CHILDREN SHOULD NOT BE RUNNING AROUND DURING NIGHT!
HEY, KOBU, TAKE A WALK WITH ME!

YOU STILL HAVEN'T FOUND OUT THE TRUE IDENTITY OF THE RATS?
TCHIN
NO, THEY'RE QUITE HARD TO FIND, I'M AFRAID!
WELL, KEEP TRYING! FIND THEM QUICKLY!
TCHIN
YOU CAN COUNT ON ME!
KOBU
!!!

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU UP TO, YOU GIVE YOUR BUDDIES AWAY TO THE ENEMY?

LEAVE HERE NOW!
THEY DON'T LIKE STRANGERS HERE!


TSAH

THESE GUYS, ARE THEY "THE RATS" ?

STRANGE, THEY ALL RESEMBLE EACH OTHER!
NO, THEY'RE NOT "THE RATS"
THIS GUY! NOTHING SEEMS TO BOTHER HIM!
THEY ARE HUNTING DOWN DOUBLES!
HUNTING DOWN DOUBLES?
ANIMALS!
THEY DECAPITATE EVERYONE WHO LOOKS LIKE THE KING OF SHIN!

SUDDENLY HE TREMBLES IN ANGER, WHO IS THIS GUY?
SAY, THE LAST GUY IN THE LINE ... I'VE ONLY SEEN THE KING ONCE, BUT ..
I SWEAR, THAT'S HIM!

THE KING OF SHIN, FUTURE EMPEROR OF THE CHINESE CONTINENT WAS CALLED ZENDOU. THE OLD BOOK "HISTORICAL MEMORIES" DESCRIBED HIS APPEARANCE:

HE HAD A POINTED NOSE, WIDE EYES, AND THE POSTURE OF A FALCON. HE NEVER LOOKED PLEASED. HE HAD A PREDATOR'S HEART, AND HIS VOICE WAS LOUD AND PIERCING

KAKURI HAD NEVER SEEN THE REAL FACE OF THE KING, BUT ACCORDING TO THE DESCRIPTION THAT HE HAD GOT, HE COULD IMAGINE THAT THE REAL KING'S APPEARANCE WOULD BE DEMONIC

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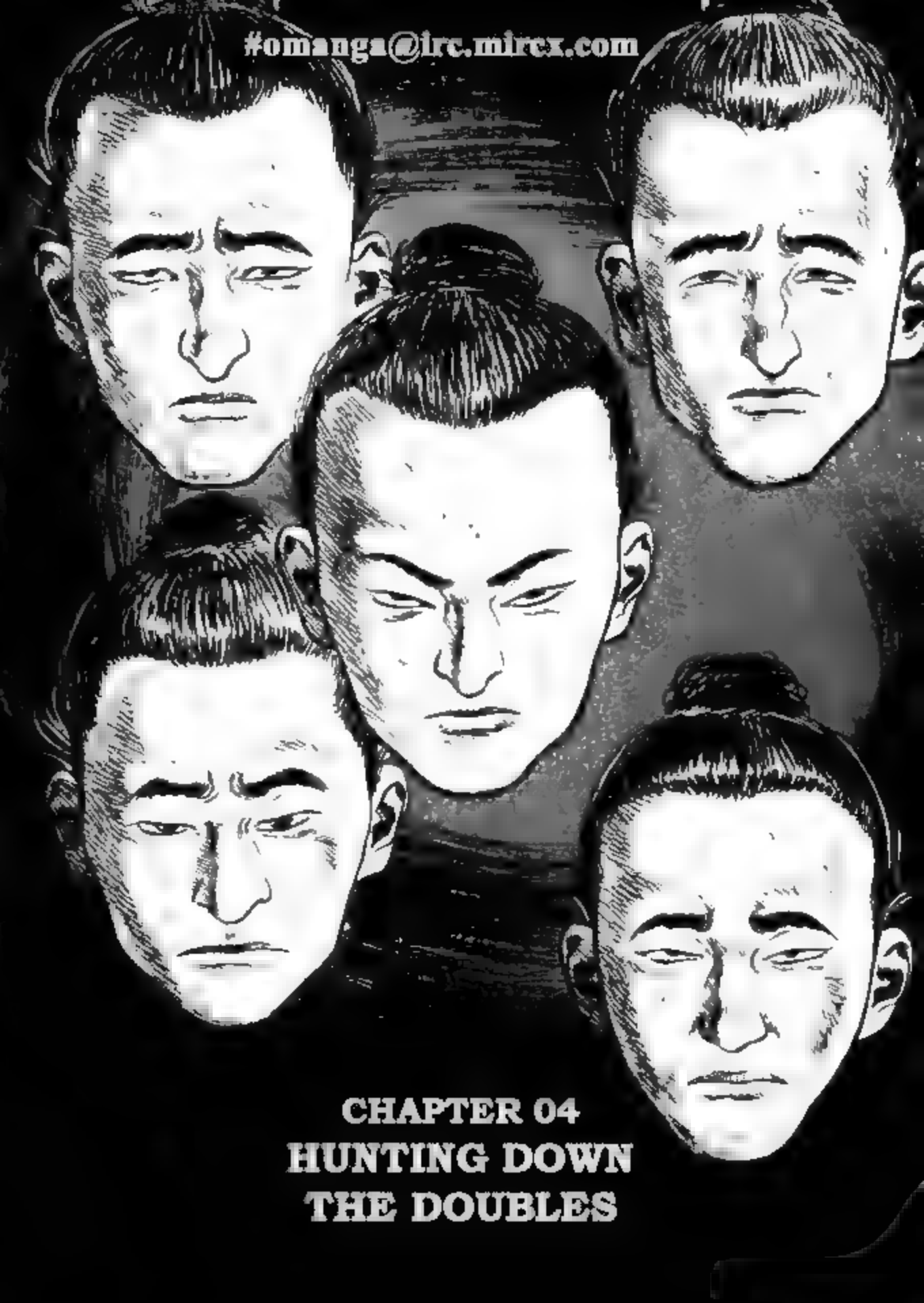

CHAPTER 04
HUNTING DOWN THE DOUBLES

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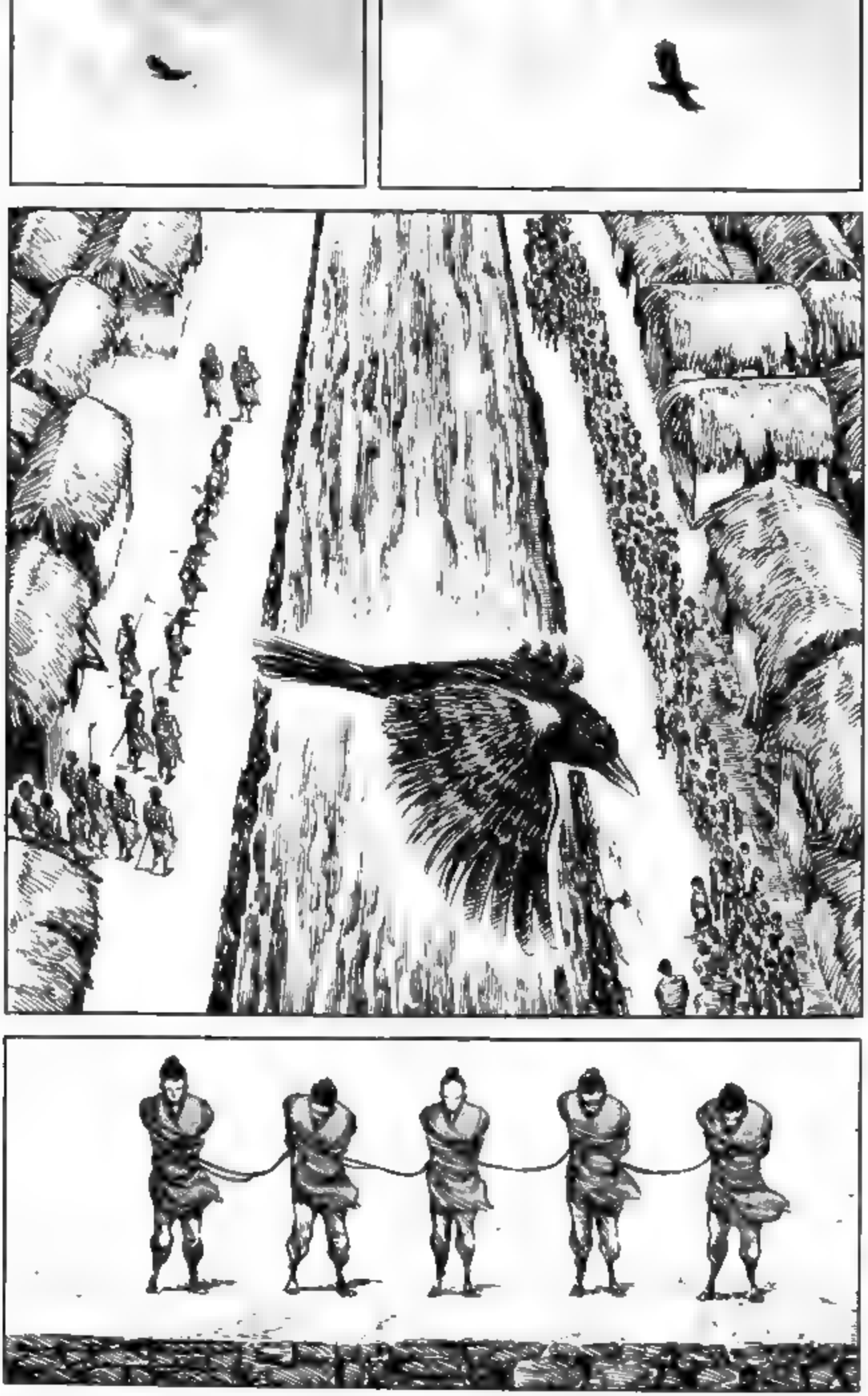
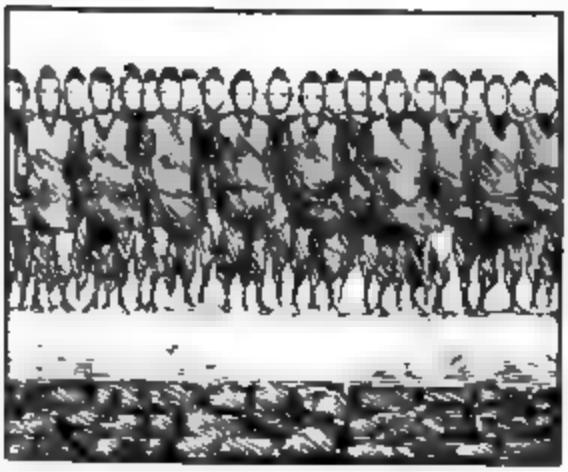
PROOFREADER: ZYPH



HOBUNE
A LIEUTENANT
IN THE ARMY
OF SHIN
NOW, IT'S TIME TO EXAMINE THEIR FACES

HIH!



HAVE THERE BEEN EXECUTIONS LIKE THIS BEFORE?
YES, TEN HAVE ALREADY BEEN KILLED

THIS ONE DOES NOT LOOK LIKE HIM AT ALL, IF I'D CLAIM THAT THE KING LOOKS LIKE THAT, I'D BE PUNISHED!
LET HIM GO!

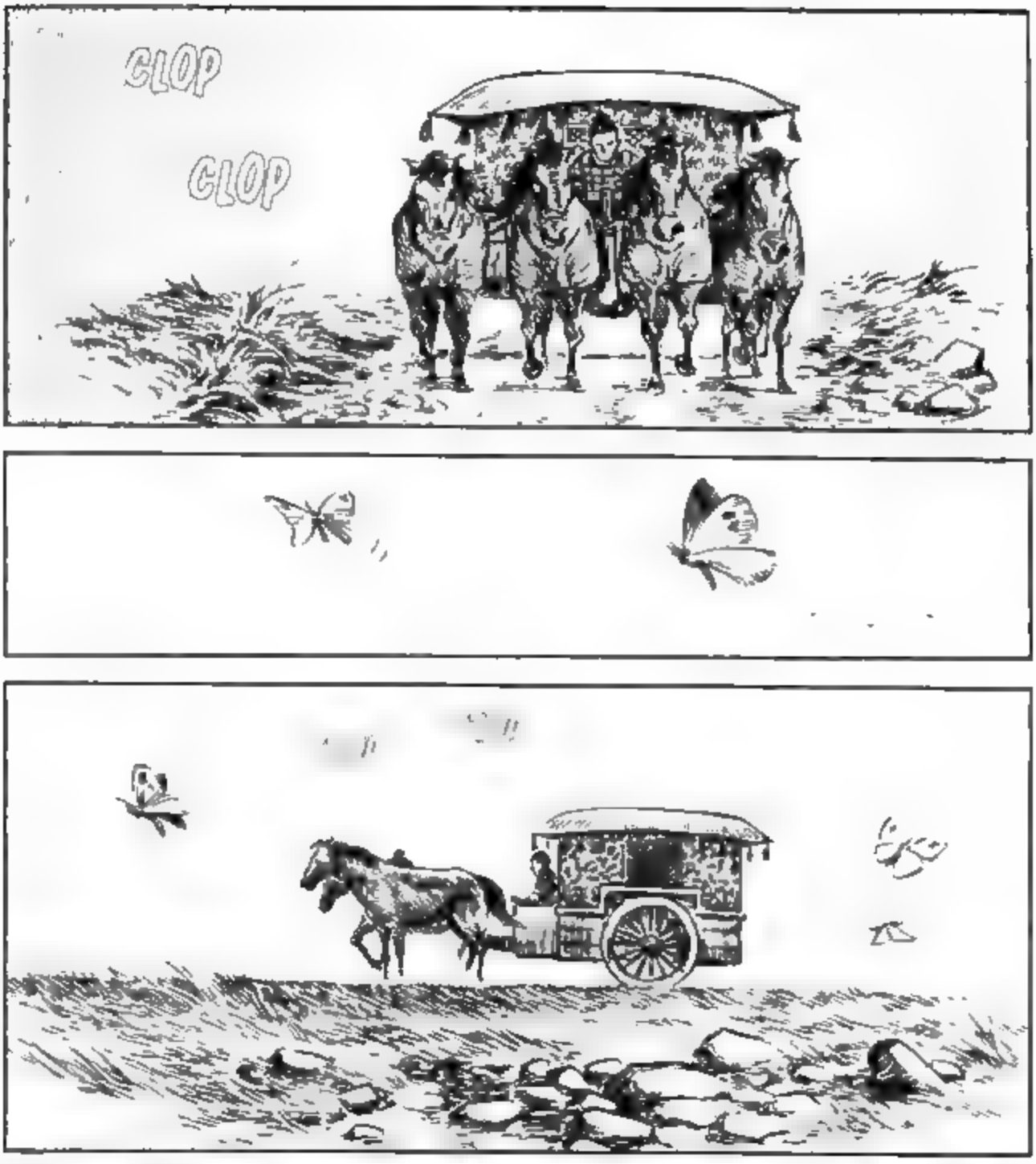
DARLING!
MY LOVE!
NOT EVEN CLOSE
HIM NEITHER
HIM NEITHER
THEY CORRESPOND TO THE DESCRIPTION OF THE POINTED NOSE AND THE EYES, BUT THAT IS NOT ENOUGH!
PLEASE FORGIVE ME, LIEUTENANT, BUT I'VE NEVER SEEN HIS MAJESTY UP CLOSE!

HMPF
.....
IS THERE A PROBLEM?
HIM, HE LOOKS JUST LIKE THE KING!

EXECUTION!
LET HIS HEAD ROLL THE GROUND!!

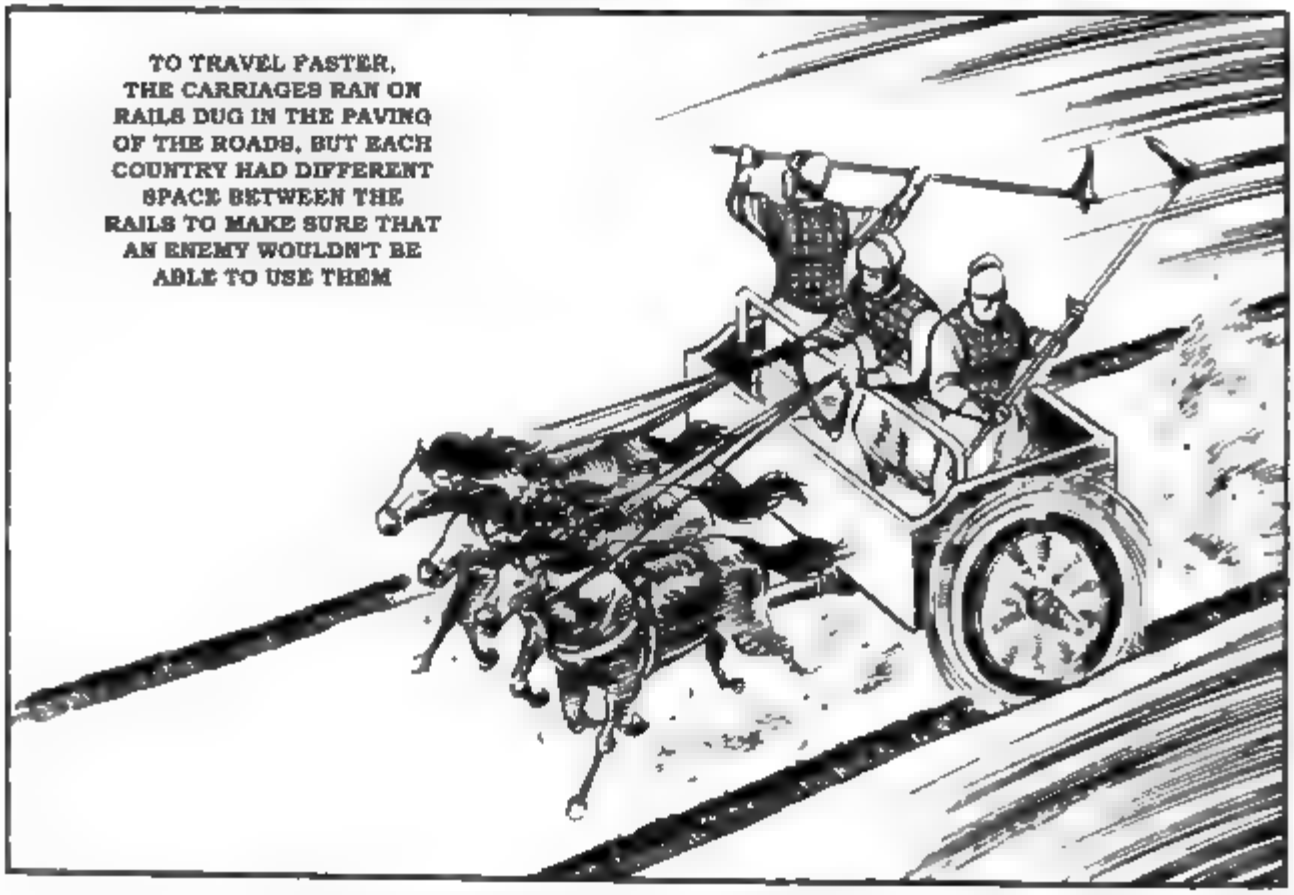
OR MAYBE ... WAIT!
THE EXECUTION HAS BEEN CALLED OFF!
BAYA
WHAT'S GOING ON?
.....
HE LOOKS EXACTLY LIKE THE KING ... WHAT IF HE'S OF ROYAL BLOOD!
IT IS QUITE POSSIBLE ... HIS MAJESTY HAS A LOT OF RELATIVES!

WHAT ARE THEY WHISPERING ABOUT?
YOU GO GET AUTHOR-IZATION!
SETSUHEI OF THE BOKK CLAN IS SUPPOSED TO GET HERE TODAY, HE MIGHT KNOW
SETSUHEI? PFFT?
OUR ARMY WOULD'VE CONQUERED KAN EASILY!
EVEN WITHOUT THE ASSISTANCE OF THE MEN OF BOKK AND THEIR GRASSHOPPERS!
CLOP
CLOP
CLOP

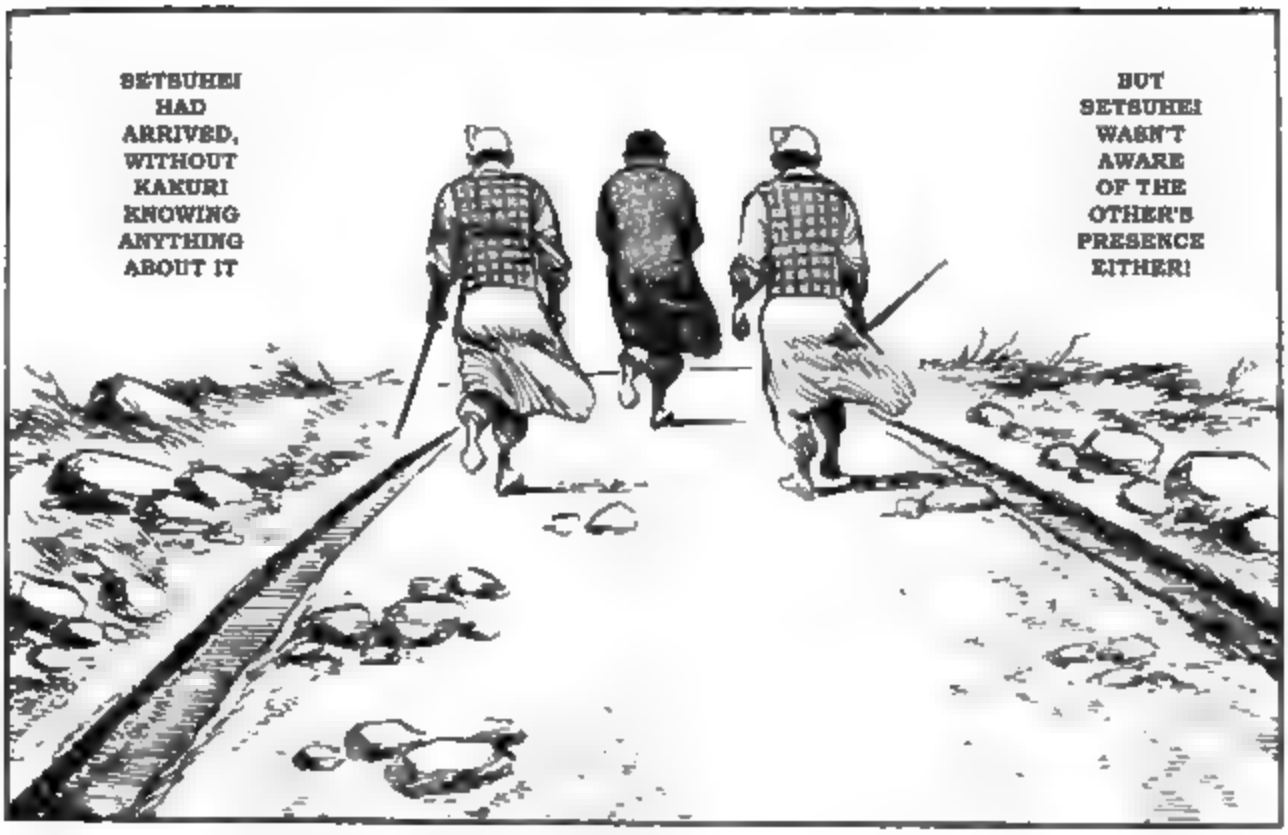

CLOP
CLOP

GRRR
GRRR
HIH!
GLOUP
HEY! WATCH WHAT YOU'RE DOING!
FORGIVE ME SIR! THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH THE RAIL!

THE RAIL IS MESSED UP, WE'LL NEED TO WALK FROM HERE ON!


TO TRAVEL FASTER, THE CARRIAGES RAN ON RAILS DUG IN THE PAVING OF THE ROADS. BUT EACH COUNTRY HAD DIFFERENT SPACE BETWEEN THE RAILS TO MAKE SURE THAT AN ENEMY WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO USE THEM

WHAT? I WILL HAVE TO WALK? THAT CAN'T BE!
WHEN THE KING OF SHIN JOINS THE SEVEN COUNTRIES, THE FIRST THING TO DO, WILL BE UNIFYING THE SPACING OF THE RAILS!!

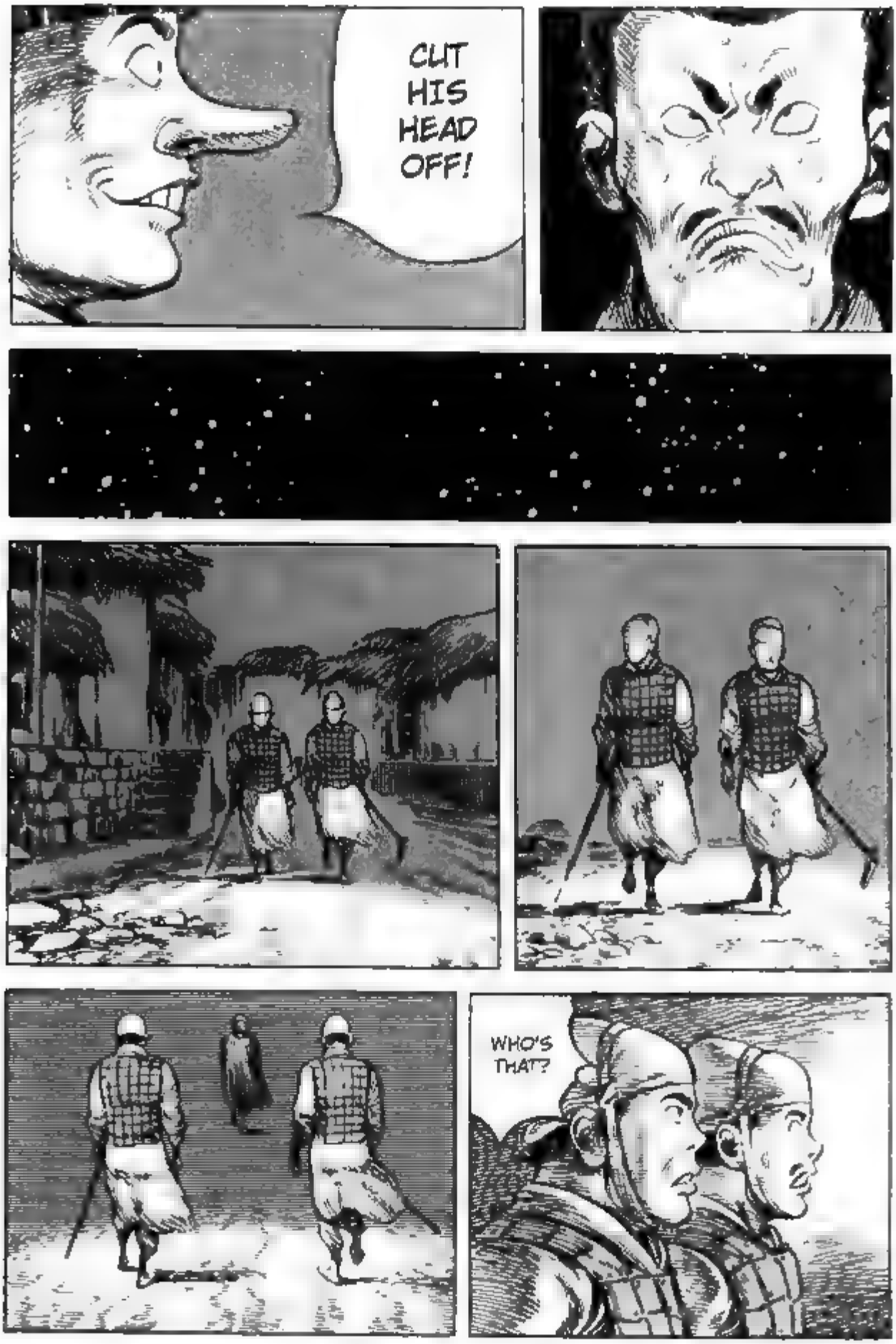

SETSUHEI HAD ARRIVED, WITHOUT KAKURI KNOWING ANYTHING ABOUT IT
BUT SETSUHEI WASN'T AWARE OF THE OTHER'S PRESENCE EITHER!

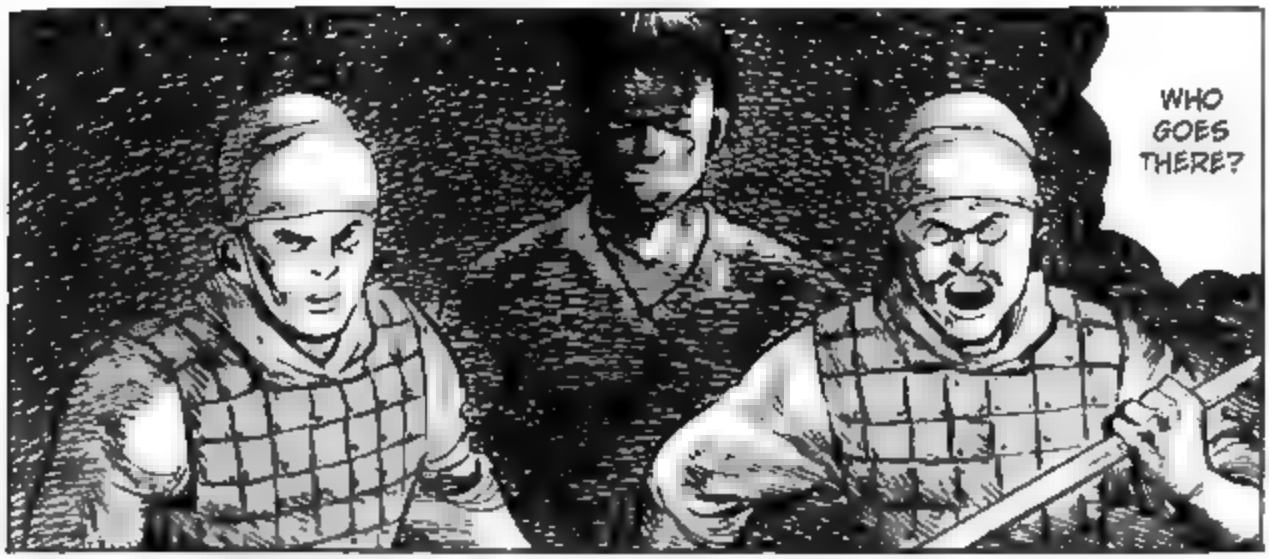
...TO SAVE THE GUY WHO LOOKS LIKE THE KING? NO WAY!

I THINK IT'S THE BEST THING TO DO! YUNJI, YOU WILL HELP ME!

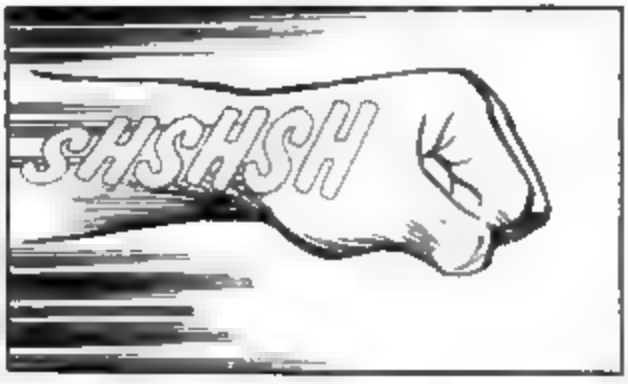
BUT THEN WE'LL GET IN TROUBLE WITH THE SOLDERS OF SHIN!
I THINK THAT MAYBE "THE RATS" WILL TRY TO PROTECT US!
IF THEY LET US ESCAPE ON OUR OWN, THEN AT LEAST I WILL KNOW THAT I CANNOT COUNT ON THEM
YES, THIS IS THE BEST WAY TO FIND THEM, AND ALSO TO TEST THEIR SKILL

WHAT! OF ROYAL BLOOD?
THAT'S IDIOTIC!
EVEN IF HE HAS A BROTHER OR TWO,
THERE'S ONLY ONE KING! AND THAT'S HIS MAJESTY, ZENDOU, KING OF SHIN!


CUT HIS HEAD OFF!
WHO'S THAT?


WHO GOES THERE?

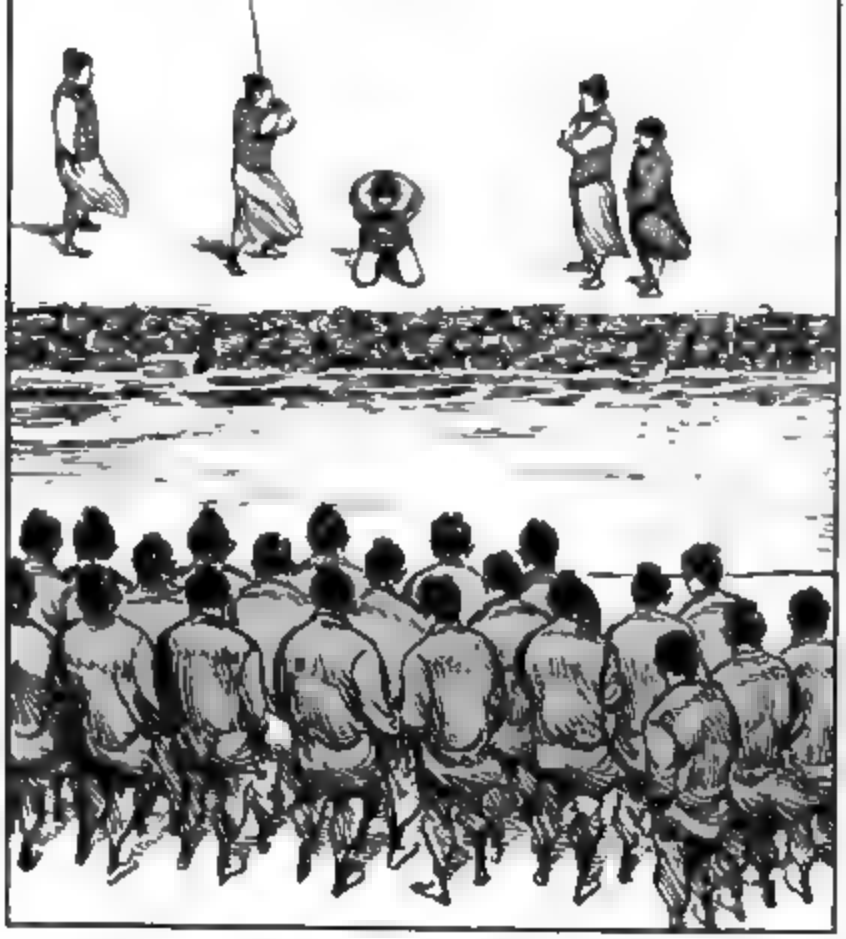
SHIT!


SHSHSH

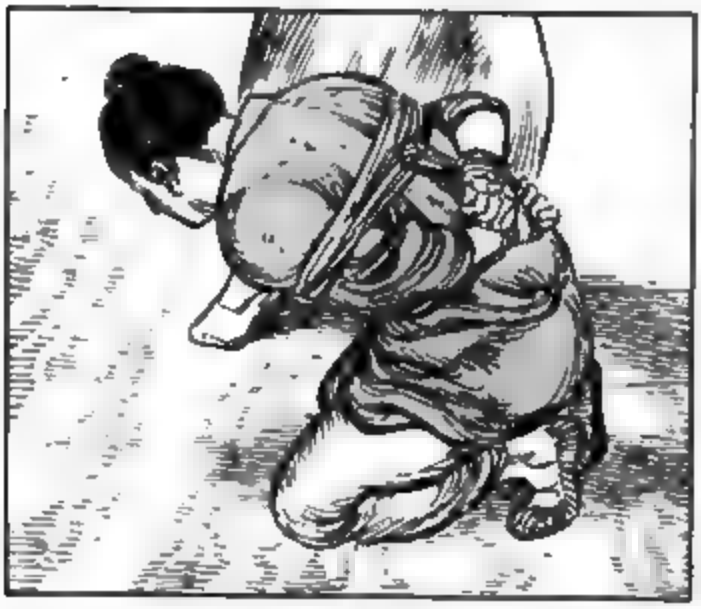
PLAF

PLOF

SATACH
STAK



THE FOLLOWING MORNING



KILL HIM!
TAPATA
TAPATA
TAPATA
TAPATA
WHO THE HELL IS THAT?

TAPATA
TAPATA
TAPATA
TAPATA
TCHACK
TAPATA

TAPATA
TAPATA
TAPATA
TAPATA
KARURI!
SETSUHEI?

55

NOW, IT WAS KAKURI WHO HAD THE CHANCE TO DECAPITATE HIS WORST ENEMY

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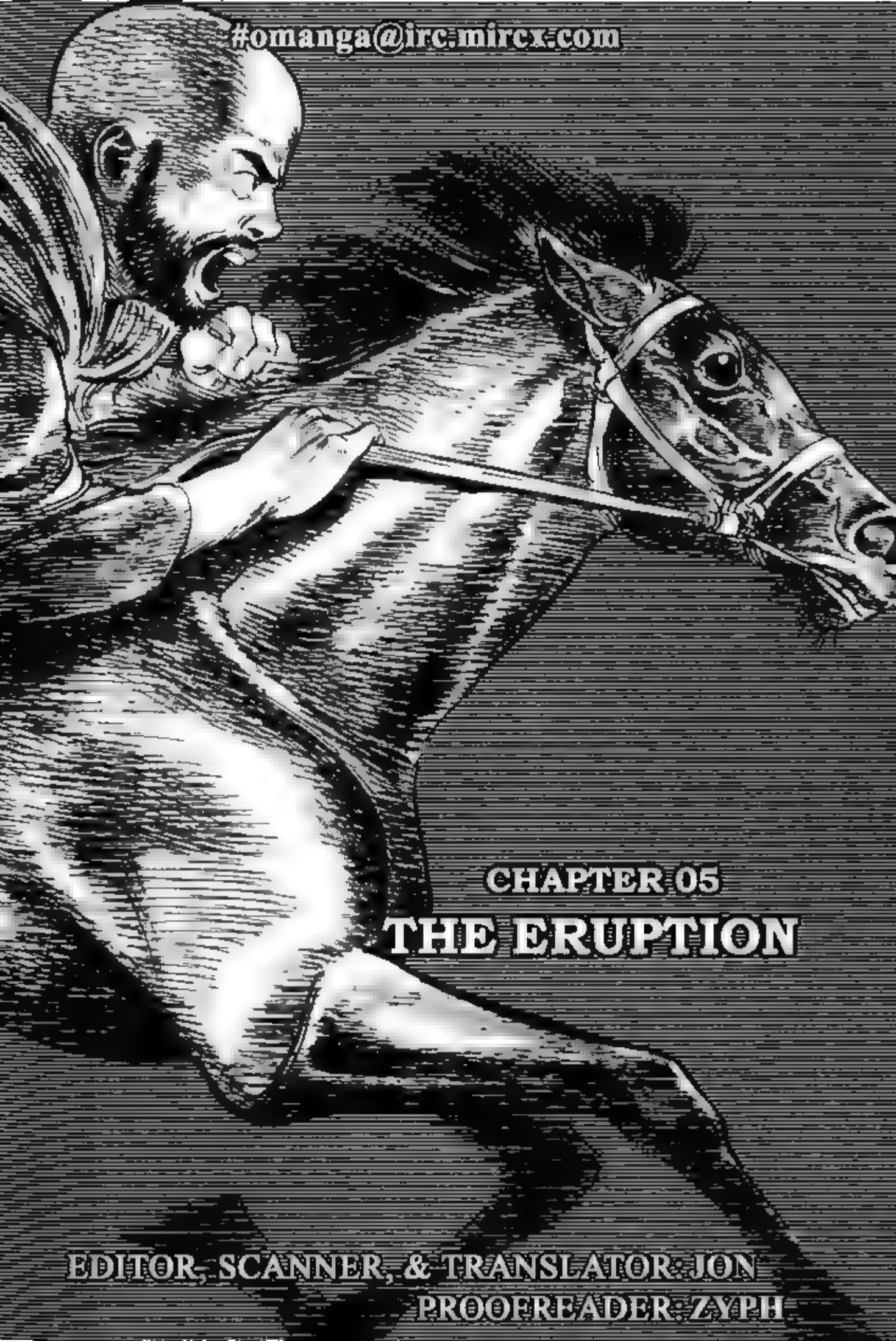
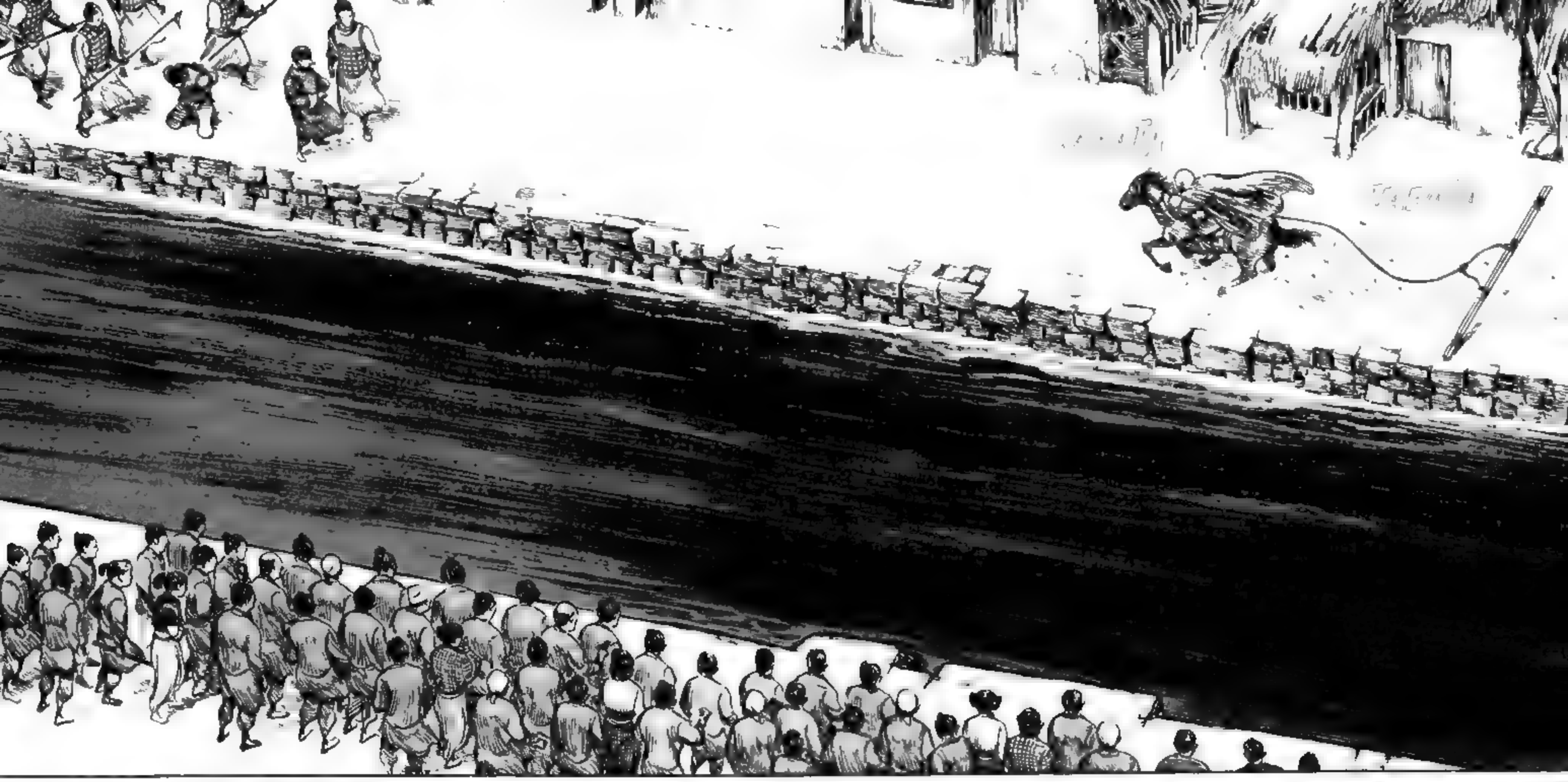
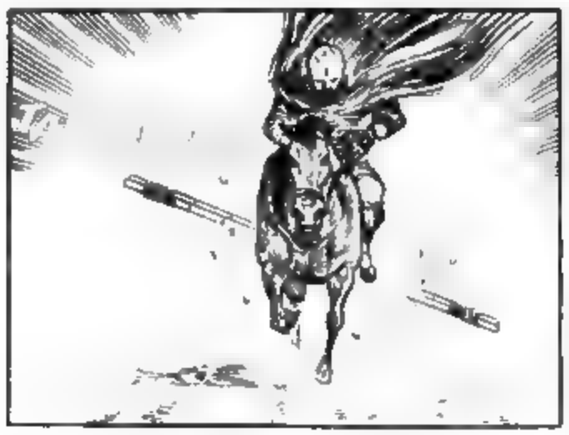


CHAPTER 05
THE ERUPTION

EDITOR, SCANNER, & TRANSLATOR: JON
PROOFREADER: ZYPH





KAKURI!

TAPATAP
WHAT A GUY ...
WHAT'S GOING ON
PSSST!
COME WITH ME!
?
QUICKLY! STOP HIM!

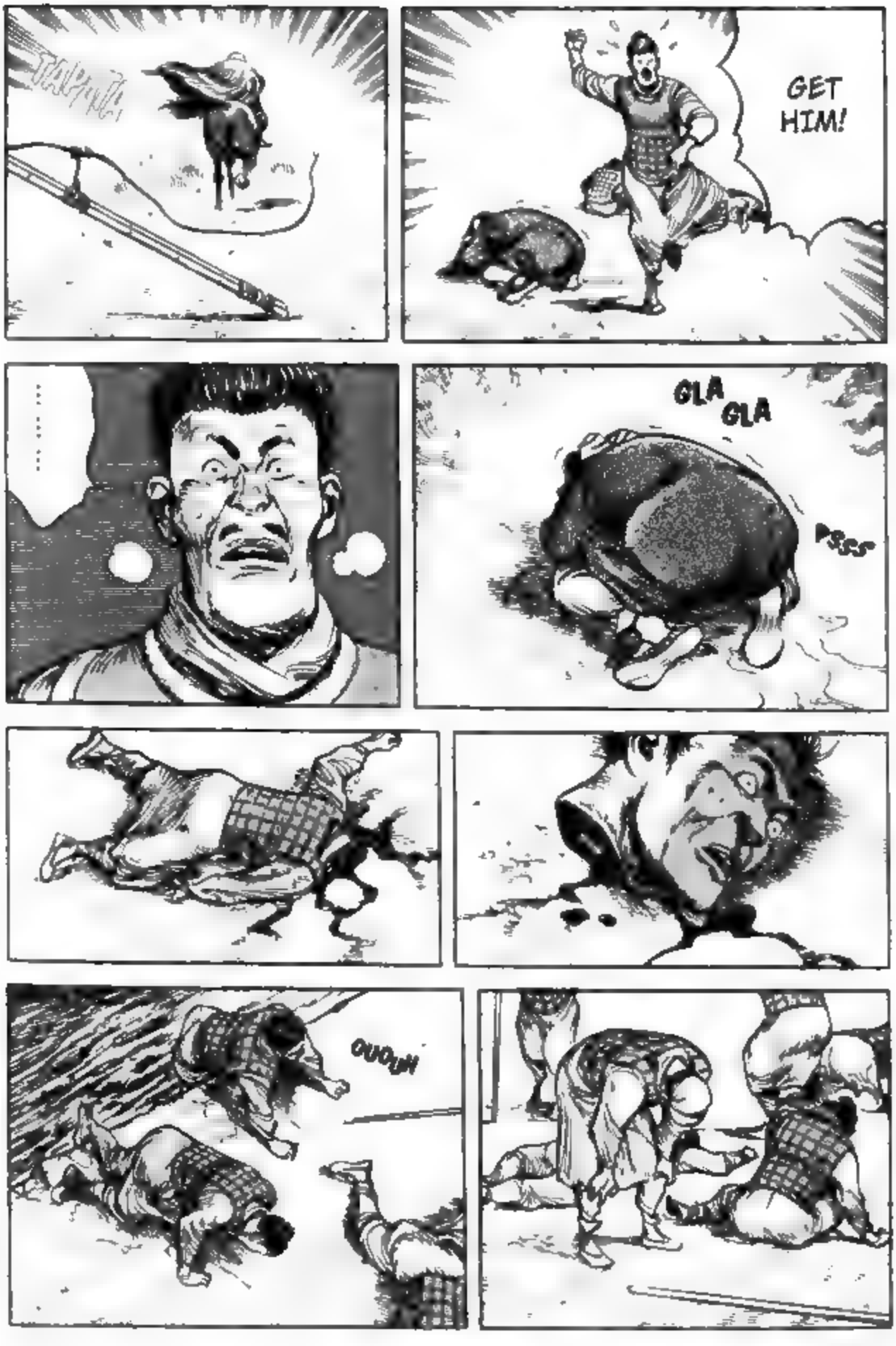
TA
TA
TA
TA
TAPATAPATA
SETSU-
HEI!
HIH!
WA
OUH
!!!

GHYA
WAA
TAPATAPATA
WO UUA AAA HA!

DZZACKK
WAA
AH!

PLAK
SASHA
TAC
HAH HAH
HNN!

YOU BUNCH OF PIGS!
WA
WA
WA
FOC
PLAF
BLH OARG!
PAN


GET HIM!
.....
GLA GLA
PSSS
OUOUH

INCREDIBLE ... ONE GUY DID ALL OF THIS ...
YOU WHO ARE A LIEUTENANT, YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT HIM!
GLA GLA
REMEMBER THE STORY ABOUT RYO IN THE COUNTRY OF EN?
THE MAN WHO DEFENDED RYO AGAINST TCHO'S ARMY?
WAS THAT KAKURI?
BUT WHAT'S HE DOING HERE?
DOES IT LOOK LIKE I KNOW?
WHAT'S HE DOING HERE?

WHAT A CATASTROPHE ... AND JUST WHEN THE KING IS ON HIS WAY HERE TO INSPECT OUR TROOPS!
GAYA WAYAN
THAT GUY, WHO WAS IT?
I DON'T THINK I'VE SEEN HIM AROUND BEFORE ...
.....
I'M NOT SURE, BUT I THINK THAT THIS MIGHT PROVE TO BE INTERESTING!
TA
TA
TA
TA

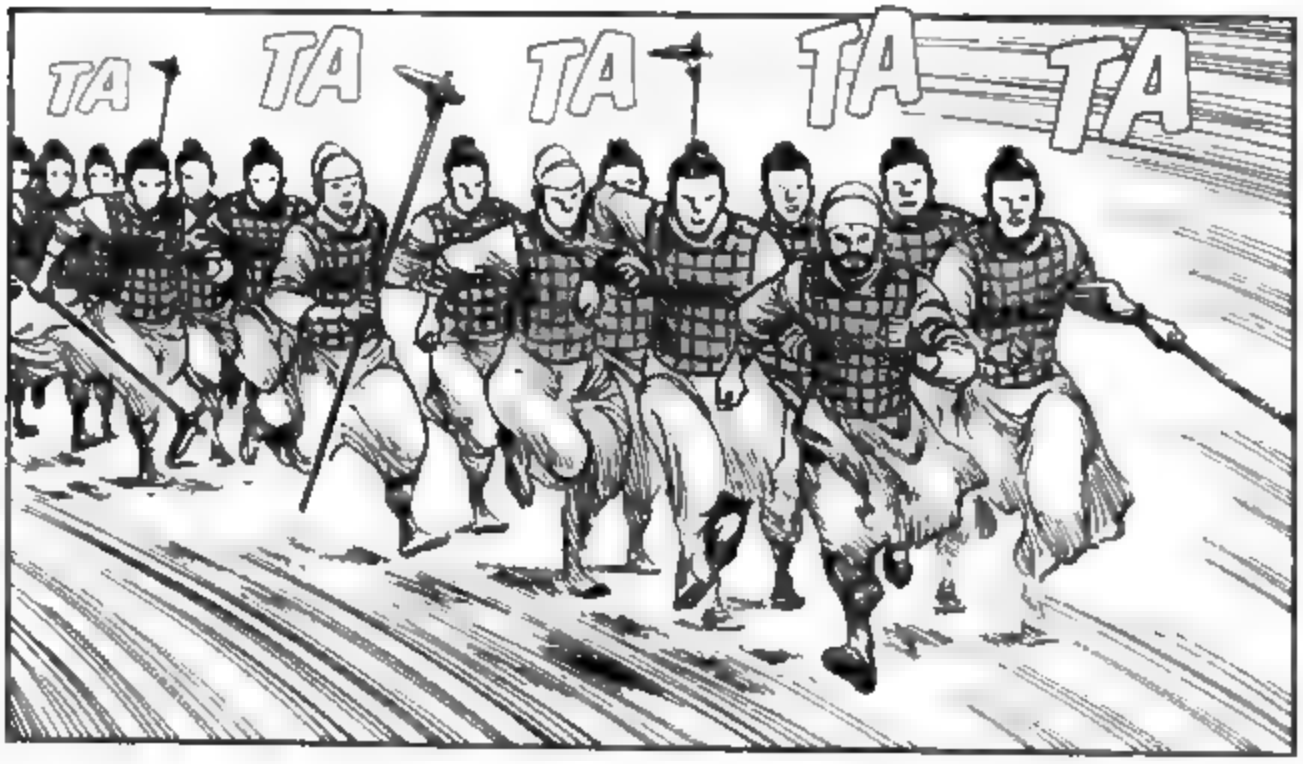
THE HORSE, LOOK OUT!
TA PATA PATA PATAP
STOP THAT HORSE!

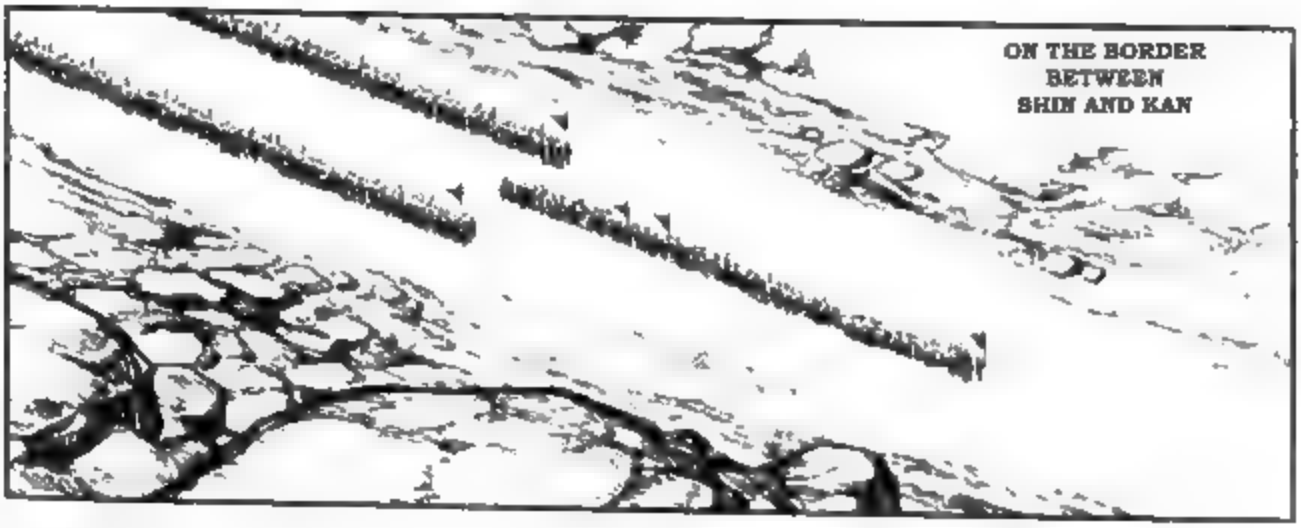
A HORSE, YES BUT NO RIDER!
THE HORSE LED US ASTRAY!
FIND HIM BEFORE NIGHT FALLS!

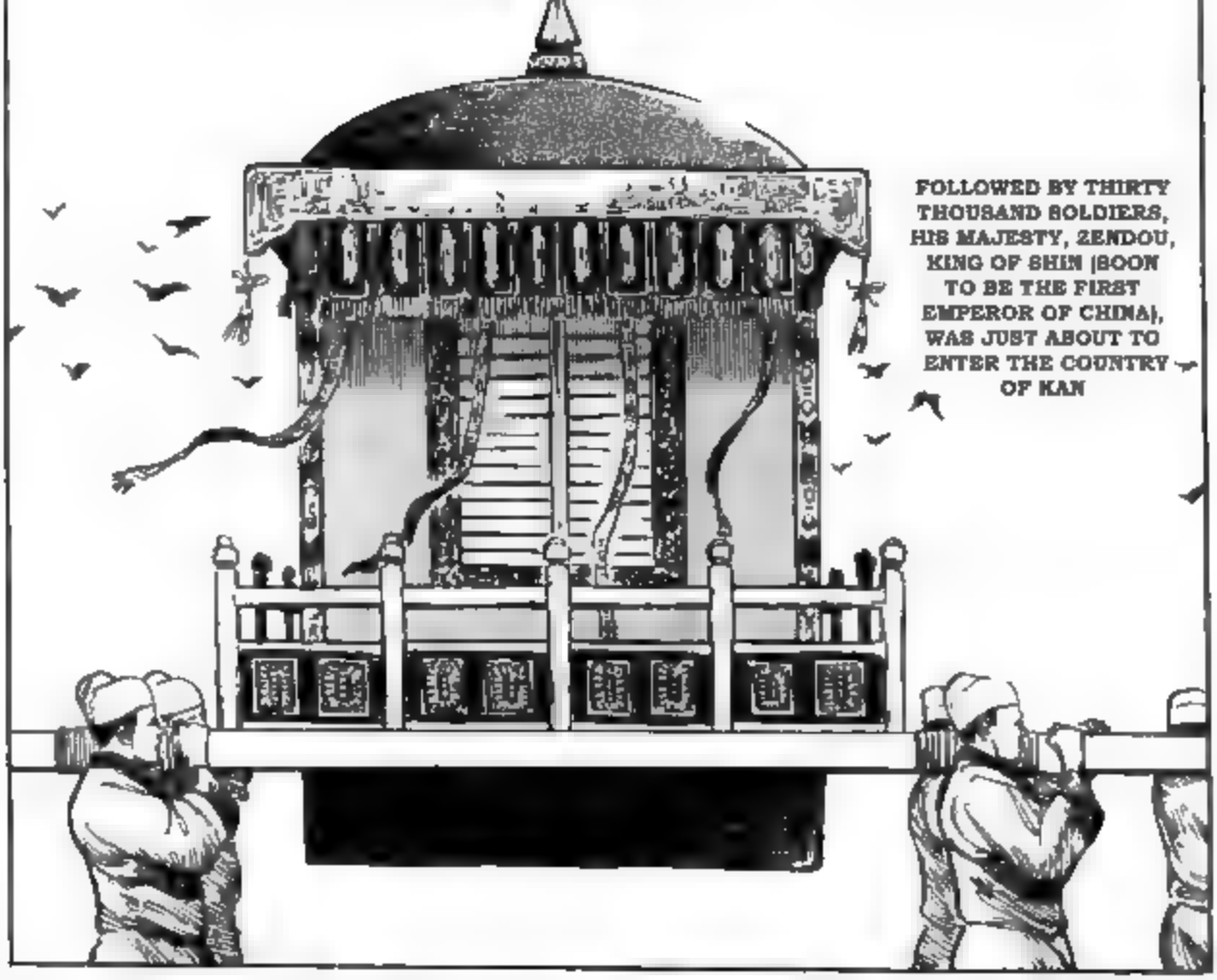
TCHOC
PLAF
GYA AAH !!!
I HEARD A SCREAM
TA TA TA
IT WAS OVER HERE!
TA TA TA
!!

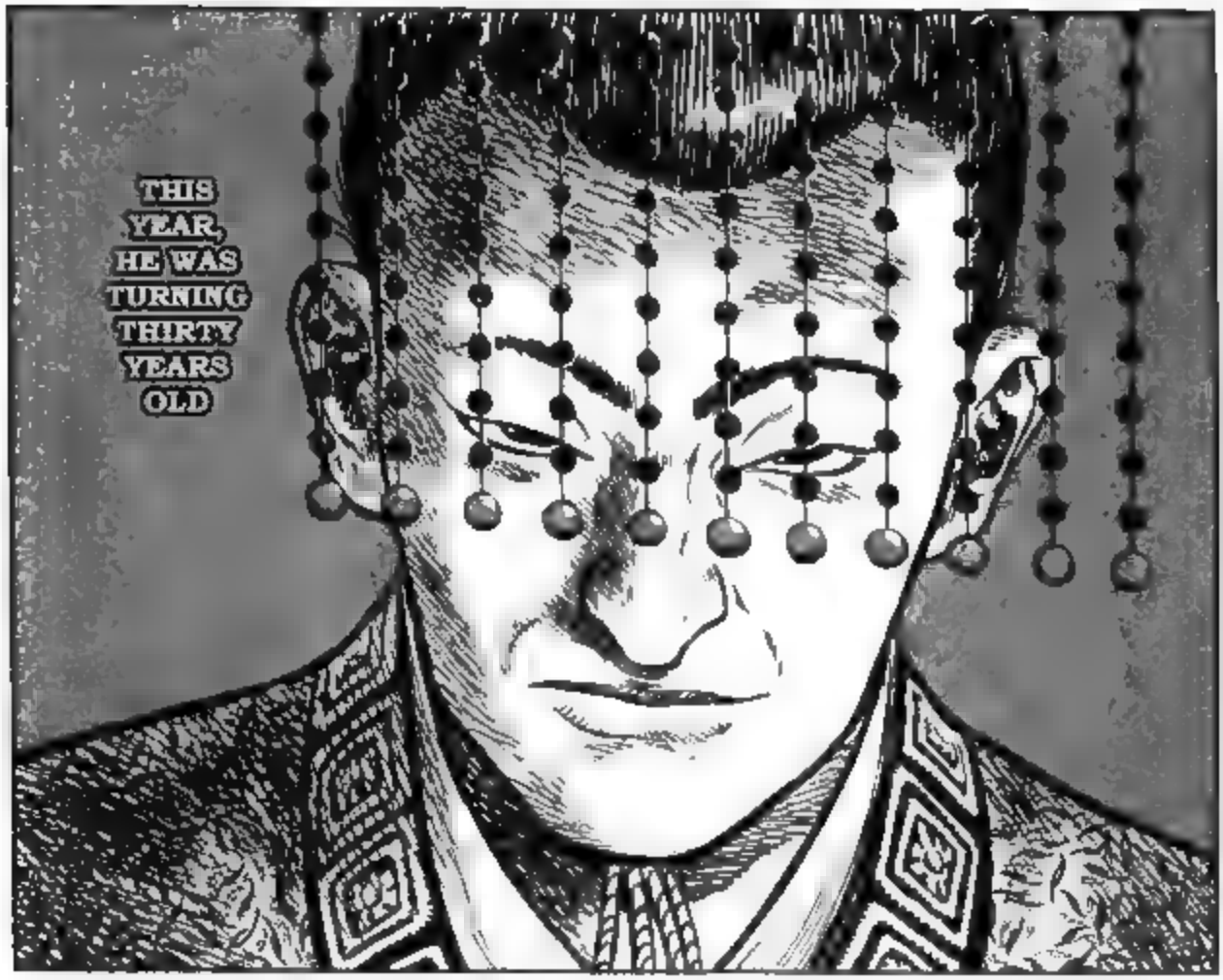
GRRR
TA
TA
TA
TA
TA
TA
TA
TA
TA

THERE WAS A MAN HIDING IN HERE
HE FLED THIS WAY
FOLLOW ME!


TA
TA
TA
TA
TA


ON THE BORDER
BETWEEN
SHIN AND KAN


FOLLOWED BY THIRTY THOUSAND SOLDIERS, HIS MAJESTY, ZENDOU, KING OF SHIN (SOON TO BE THE FIRST EMPEROR OF CHINA), WAS JUST ABOUT TO ENTER THE COUNTRY OF KAN


THIS YEAR, HE WAS TURNING THIRTY YEARS OLD

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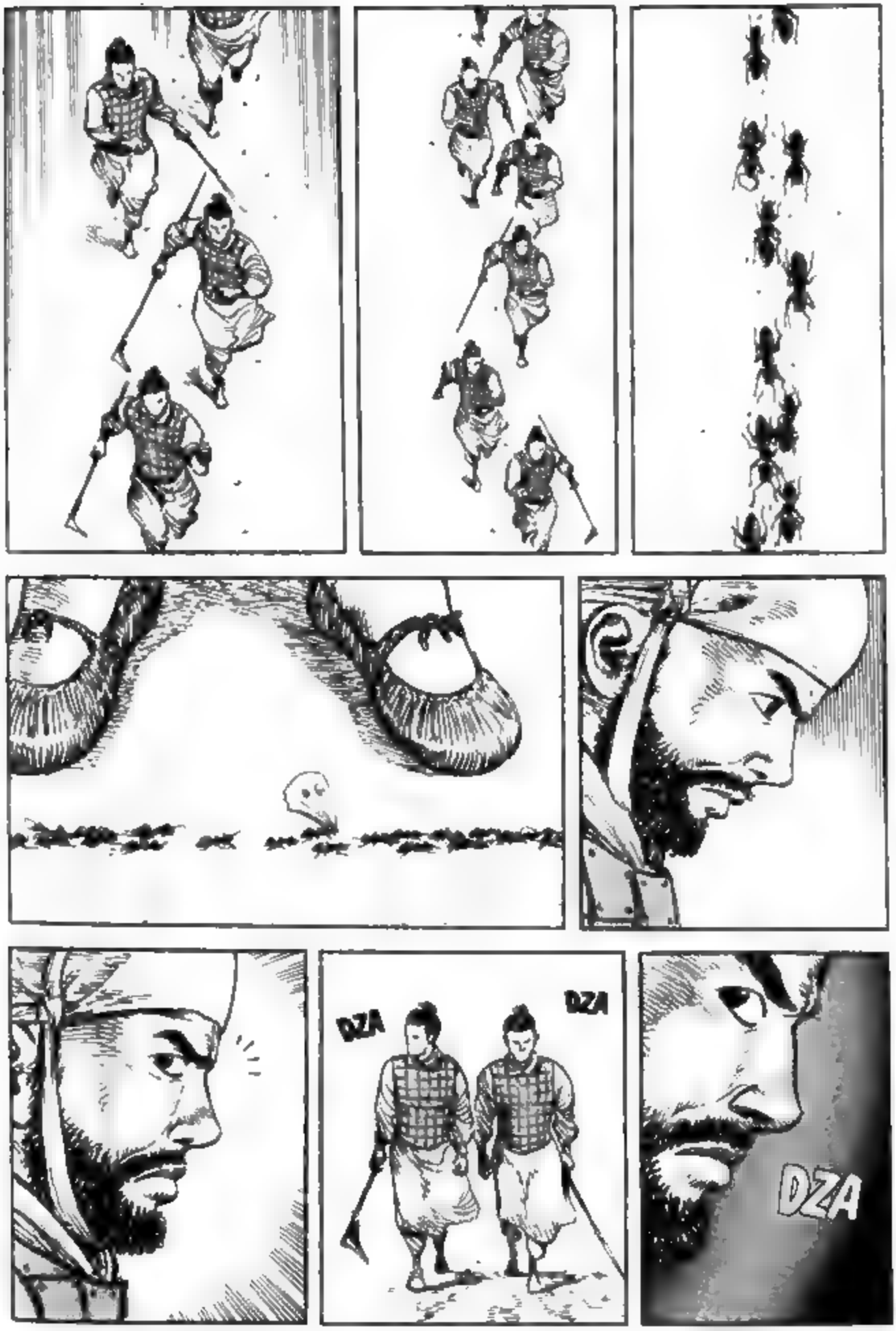
CHAPTER 06
WHO ARE THE RATS?

EDITOR, SCANNER, & TRANSLATOR: JON
PROOFREADER: ZYPH

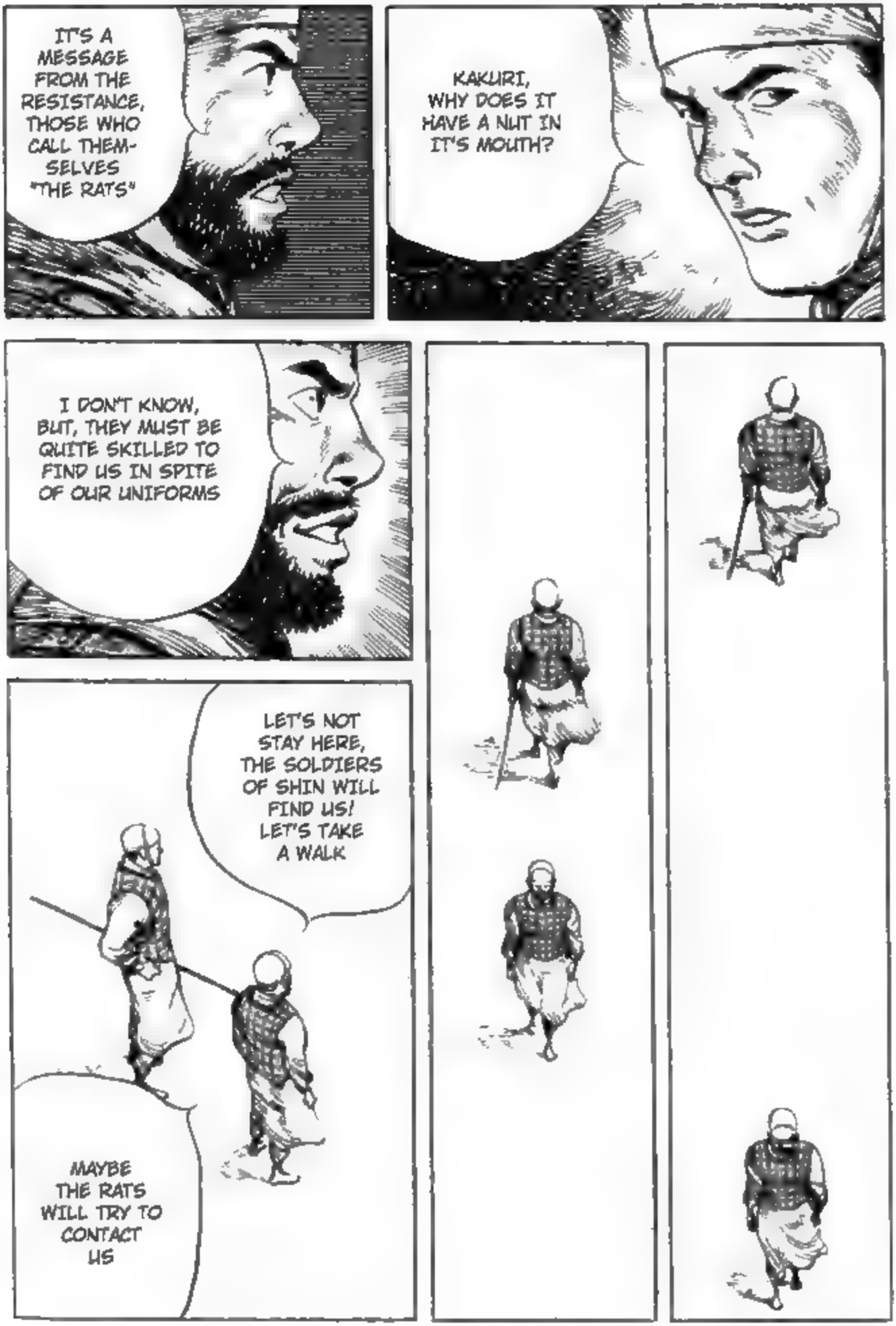
TA TA TA TA
TA TA TA
FIND KAKURI!
AS SOON AS YOU CAPTURE HIM, KILL HIM!

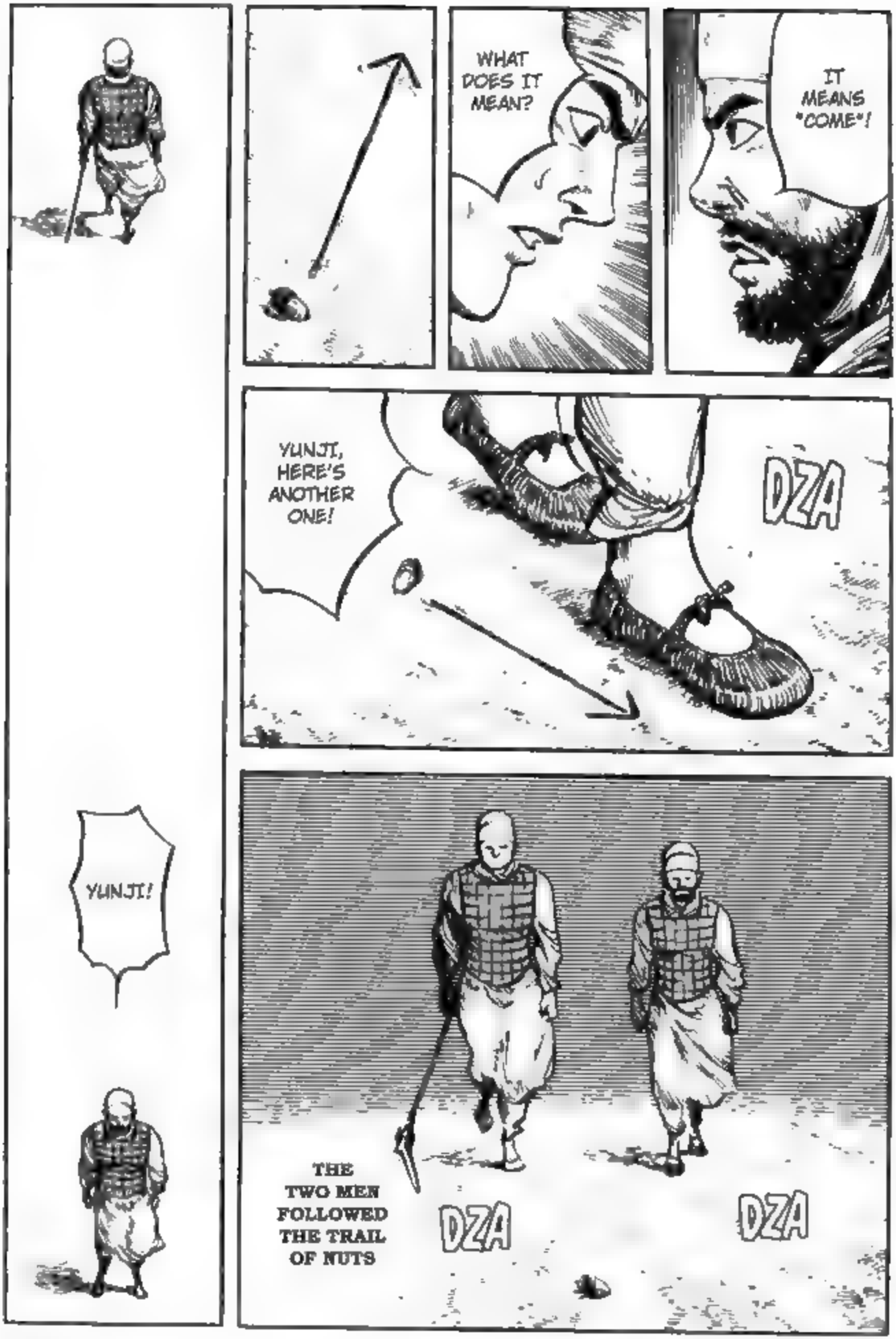

DZA
DZA
DZA

AND THERE?
NOTHING INSIDE!
IT IS THE THIRD TIME THAT THIS ABANDONED HOUSE HAS BEEN SEARCHED
KAKURI, HE IS A FAMOUS MAN,
HE CAME HERE JUST TO SAVE THE KING'S DOUBLE
QUITE DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHER MAN OF BOKK, SETSUHEI!
HA HA HA
AH YES, HIM, HE'S ALWAYS HIDING, HE DOESN'T EVEN DARE TO TAKE A PISS ALONE

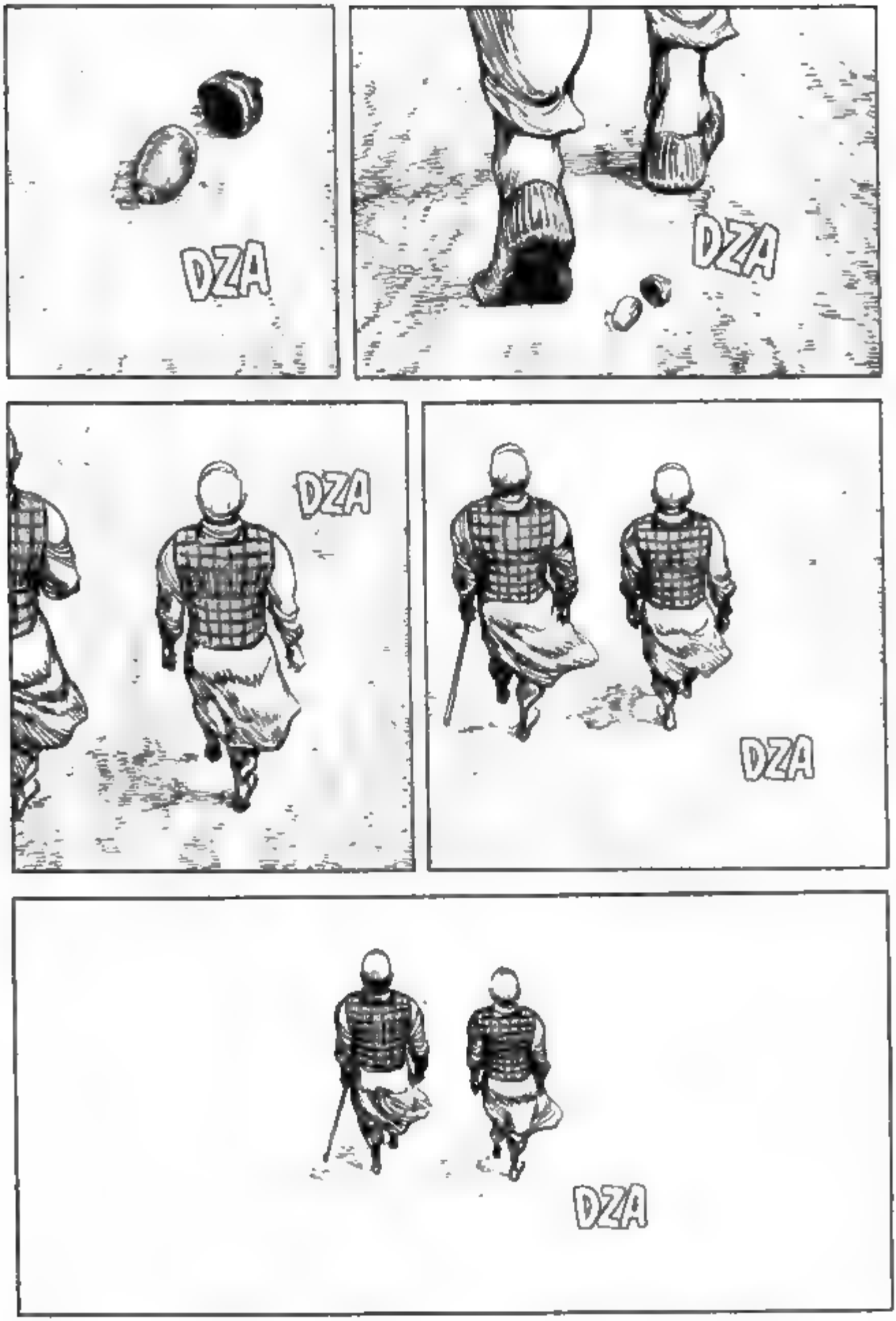
.....
POUTCH
.....
PLOF

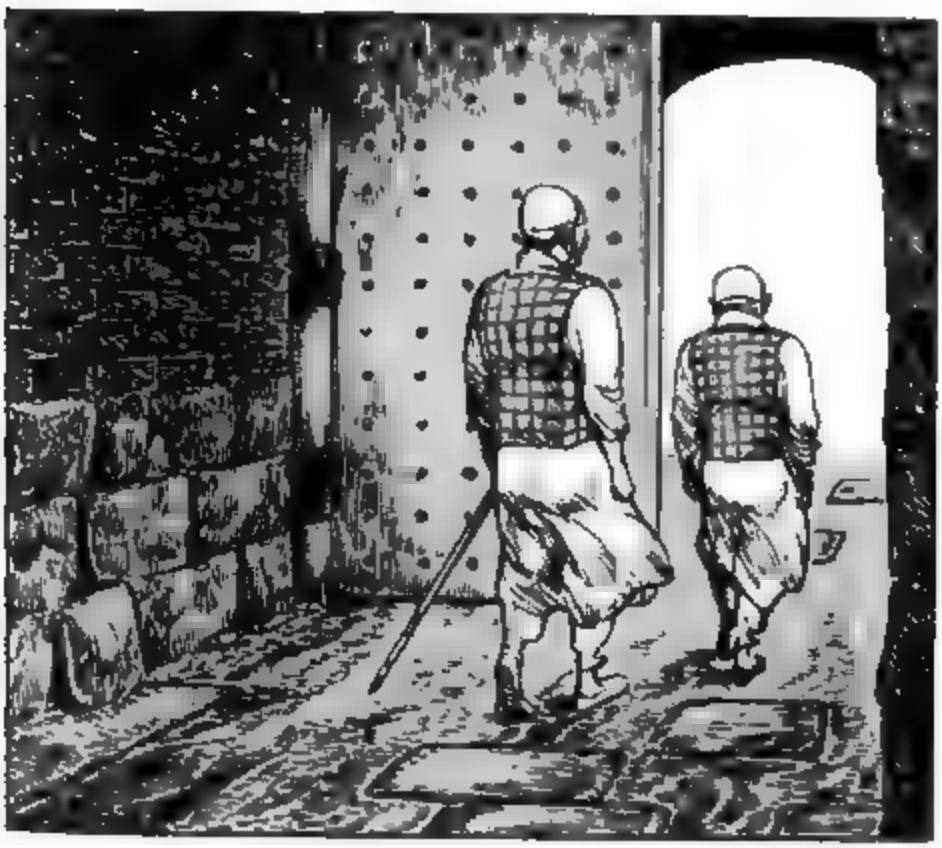
TOMORROW WE'LL BRING YOU SOME MORE FOOD, DON'T BE AFRAID, WE'LL PROTECT YOU!
WE NEED TO FIND HIM A BETTER PLACE TO HIDE, THAT PLACE ISN'T SAFE
YUNJI! LOOK AT THE GROUND!
!?


IT'S A MESSAGE FROM THE RESISTANCE, THOSE WHO CALL THEM-SELVES "THE RATS"
KAKURI, WHY DOES IT HAVE A NUT IN IT'S MOUTH?
I DON'T KNOW, BUT, THEY MUST BE QUITE SKILLED TO FIND US IN SPITE OF OUR UNIFORMS
LET'S NOT STAY HERE, THE SOLDIERS OF SHIN WILL FIND US! LET'S TAKE A WALK
MAYBE THE RATS WILL TRY TO CONTACT US

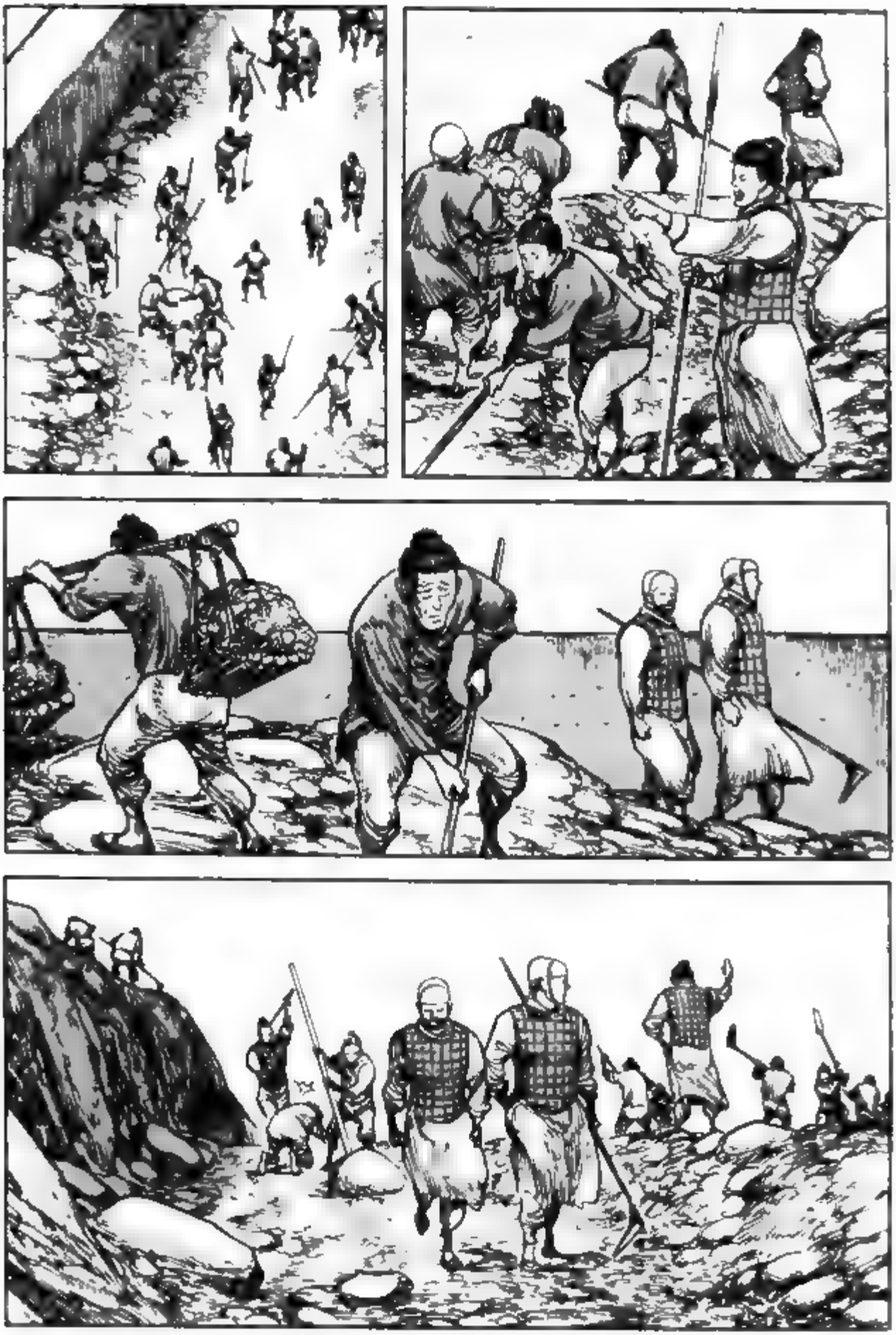

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?
IT MEANS "COME"!
YUNJI, HERE'S ANOTHER ONE!
DZA
YUNJI!
THE TWO MEN FOLLOWED THE TRAIL OF NUTS
DZA
DZA

DZA
DZA
DZA
DZA
DZA
THEY'RE LEADING US OUTSIDE THE CITY
DZA
DZA

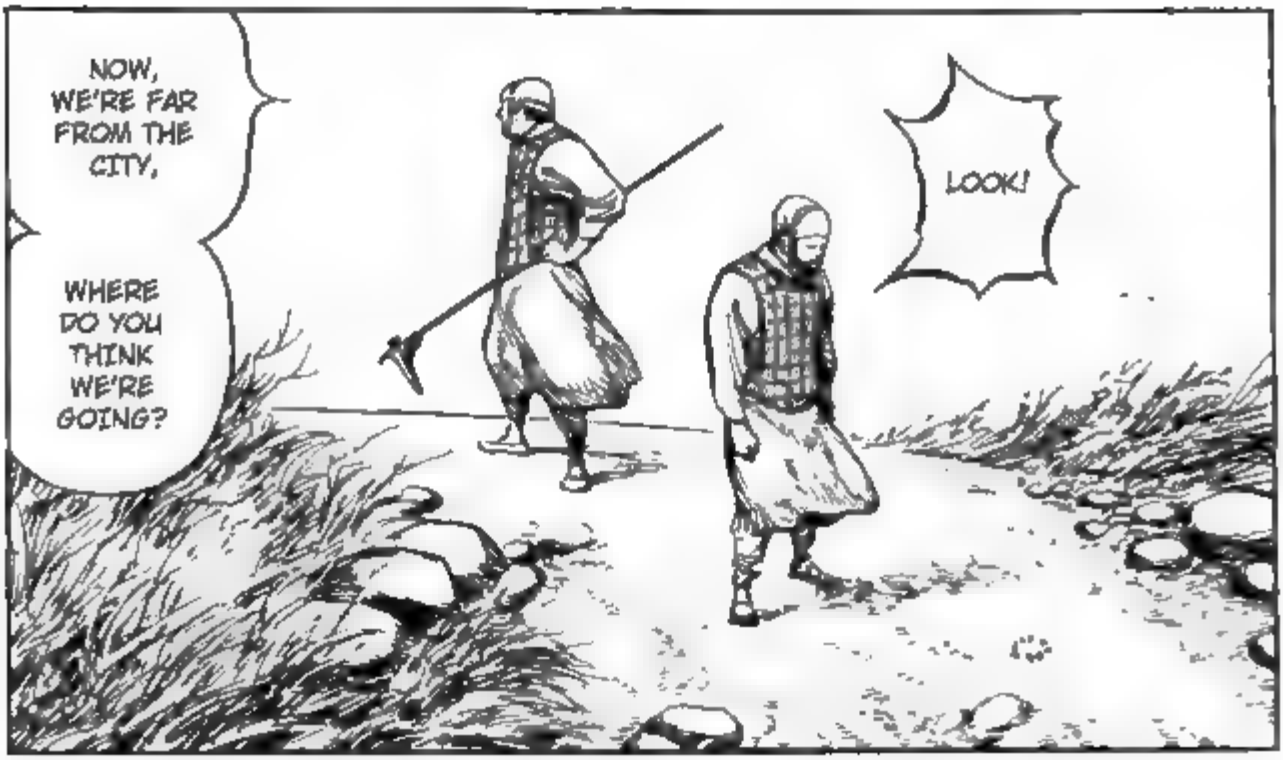

DZA
DZA
DZA
DZA
DZA

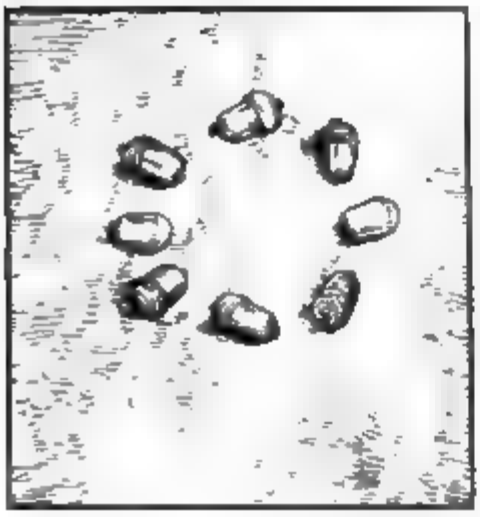


WHAT A GRAND ROAD!



WE ENTERED THE CITY BY THE EASTERN GATE, THAT'S WHY WE DIDN'T KNOW THAT IN THE WEST...
THEY HAD STARTED BUILDING THIS AMAZING ROAD
WHY DID THEY LEAD US HERE?
I DON'T KNOW ...


NOW, WE'RE FAR FROM THE CITY,
WHERE DO YOU THINK WE'RE GOING?
LOOK!

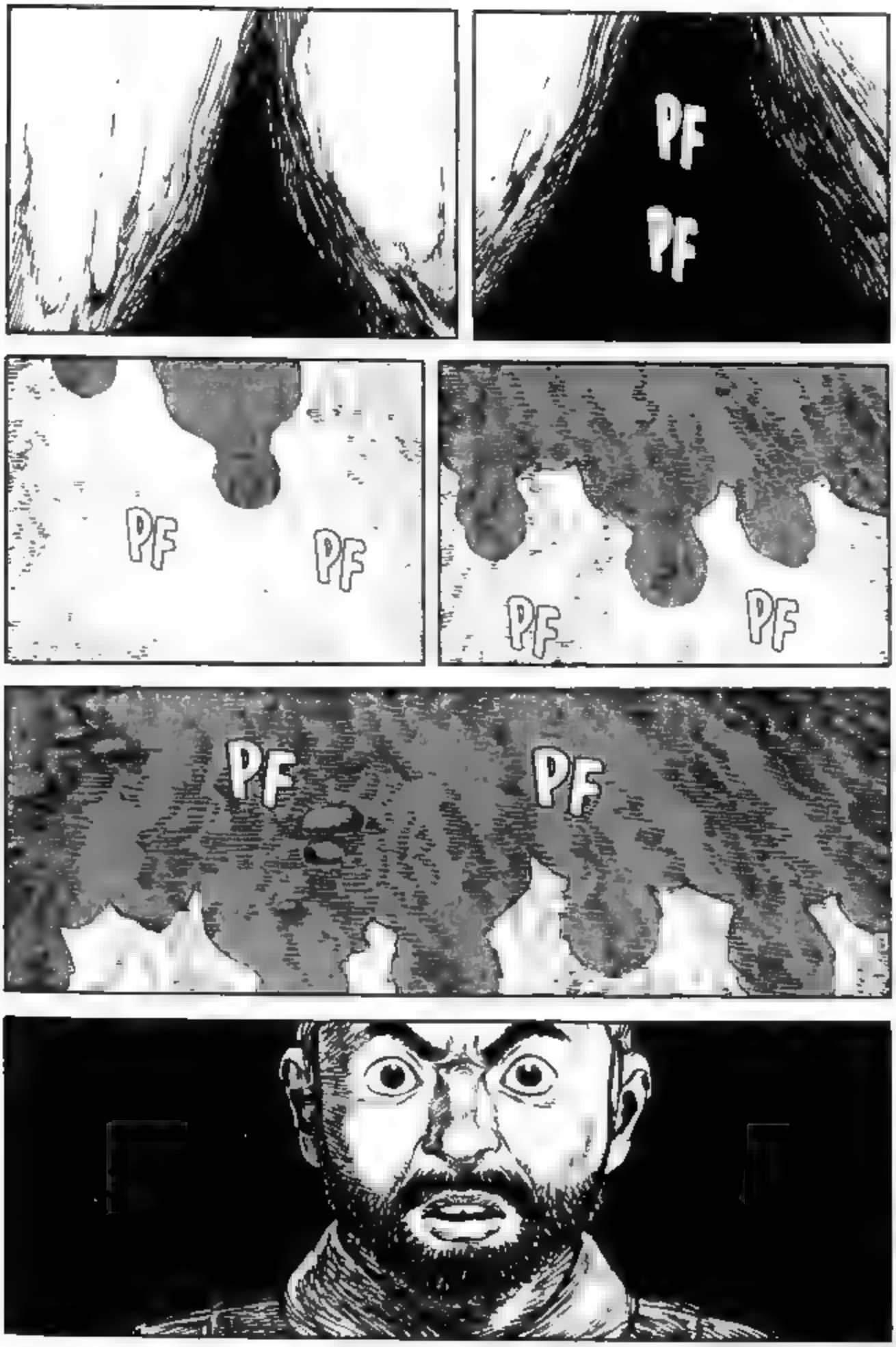


КОВИ?

KAKURI, IF I AM NOT MISTAKEN, MY BUDDIES FOUND YOUR CLOTHES
I WILL INTRODUCE YOU TO MY FRIENDS!
YOU KNOW WHAT THIS ROAD IS?
IT IS "THE ROYAL ROUTE"

HIS MAJESTY, ZENDOU, KING OF SHIN, HAD MADE THE PEOPLE BUILD A ROAD WITH A WIDTH OF 50 METRES . THE GROUND WAS PAVED WITH HEAVY BLACK FLAGSTONES. THE ROAD HAD WALLS OF DIRT ON BOTH SIDES SO THAT NO ONE WOULD BE ABLE TO SEE HIM TRAVEL. HE TRAVELED THIS ROAD BY HORSE, TOGETHER WITH TENS OF THOUSANDS OF SOLDIERS. IT WAS, SO TO SPEAK, HIS OWN PERSONAL MOTORWAY...

HOW MANY OF THESE RATS ARE THERE?
ABOUT THIRTY!
THIRTY, THAT'S MORE THAN I EXPECTED, BUT
THAT IS NOT ENOUGH TO ATTACK THE KING OF SHIN!
COME ON EVERYONE! GET OUT HERE!
BRING THE MAN YOU RESCUED,
HE WILL BE SAFE HERE


PF
PF
PF
PF
PF
PF
PF
PF

YOU FOOL! WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH AN ARMY OF KIDS?

KAKURI HAD EARLIER GOTTEN REALLY HIGH HOPES FOR "THE RATS". NOW HE WAS EVEN MORE DISAPPOINTED THAN YUHJI

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CHAPTER 07

THE BURNING WATER

EDITOR, SCANNER, & TRANSLATOR: JON
PROOFREADER: ZYPH

HIS MAJESTY, ZENDOU, KING OF SHIN, HAD MADE THE PEOPLE BUILD A ROAD WITH A WIDTH OF 50 METRES. THE GROUND WAS PAVED WITH HEAVY BLACK FLAGSTONES. THE ROAD HAD WALLS OF DIRT ON BOTH SIDES SO THAT NO ONE WOULD BE ABLE TO SEE HIM TRAVEL. HE TRAVELED THIS ROAD BY HORSE, TOGETHER WITH TENS OF THOUSANDS OF SOLDIERS. IT WAS, SO TO SPEAK, HIS OWN PERSONAL MOTORWAY...

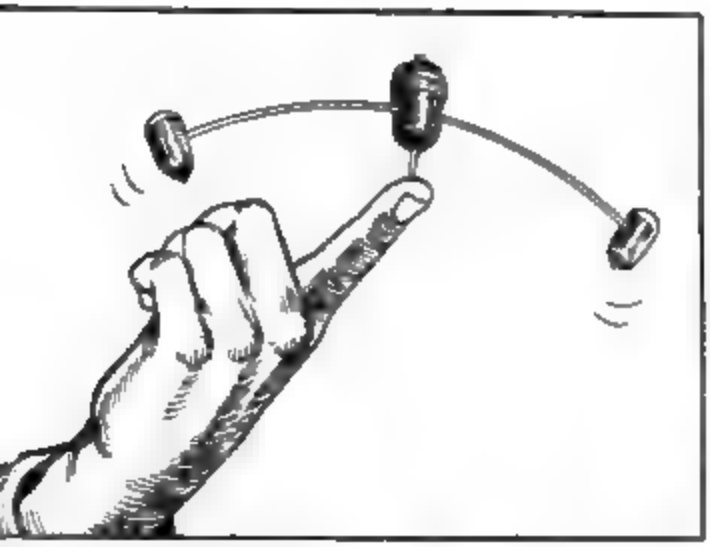
UNTIL THIS ROAD HAD REACHED THE COUNTRY OF SHIN, THE INHABITANTS OF KAN WERE FORCED TO WORK, NIGHT AND DAY

THE WALLS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE ROAD, ARE TO AVOID ATTACKS
WE CAN'T ATTACK THE KING OF SHIN WITH ONLY THIRTY KIDS!
THE ROAD IS FAR FROM FINNISHED!
KOBU
BUT THAT DOESN'T BOTHER HIM, THE KING'S VERY CLOSE TO THE BORDER BETWEEN KAN AND SHIN,
SOON HE WILL COME
ON HIS WAY, HE WILL CROSS MOUNTAINS AND VALLEYS, SEVERAL LOCATIONS WHERE HE'LL BE VULNERABLE
HOW DO YOU KNOW ALL THIS?
I HAVE A BUDDY WHO HAS DISGUISED HIMSELF AS ONE OF SHIN'S SOLDIERS,
HE'S THE ONE WHO TOLD ME
SO, THERE'S ANOTHER ADULT FOR YOU

THE ASSASSINATION OF A KING, IT CAN ONLY END BADLY ...
YOU AND YOUR BUDDY, YOU SHOULDN'T INVOLVE CHILDREN IN SOMETHING LIKE THIS!
DO NOT UNDERSTIMATE THESE KIDS,
THEY CAN RUN AROUND EVERYWHERE DURING THE NIGHT WITHOUT BEING SUSPECTED.
THEY'VE SUCCEEDED IN ATTACKING SOLDIERS OF SHIN AND STARTING FIRES WITHOUT BEING FOUND OUT
BUT THIS TIME, THEY WILL DIE!
I'VE NEVER FORCED THEM TO DO ANYTHING!
EVEN IF I WOULD TELL THEM TO GIVE UP, THEY WOULD NEVER LISTEN!

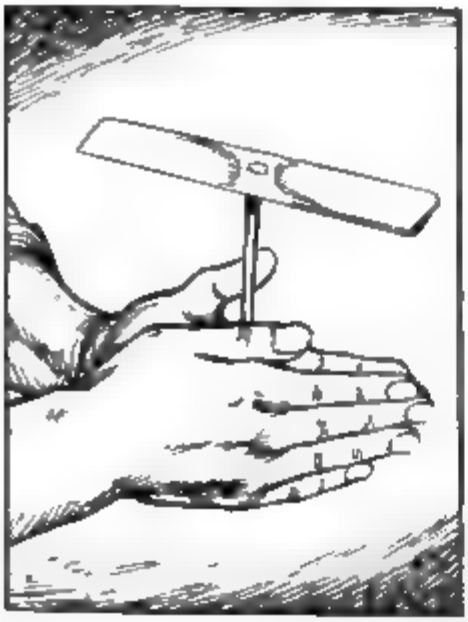
HEY! IF YOU HAD SEEN YOUR WHOLE FAMILY GET SLAUGHTERED, WOULD YOU JUST SIT AROUND AND DO NOTHING?

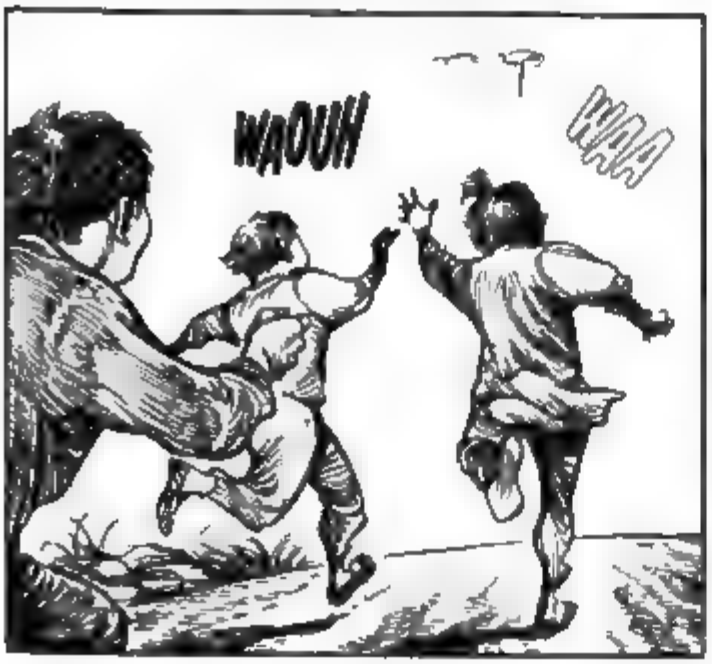
THEY ARE ALL VERY BRAVE!



YUNJI!

I HAVE SOMETHING TO SHOW YOU!




WAOUH

KAKURI, YOU COME TOO!

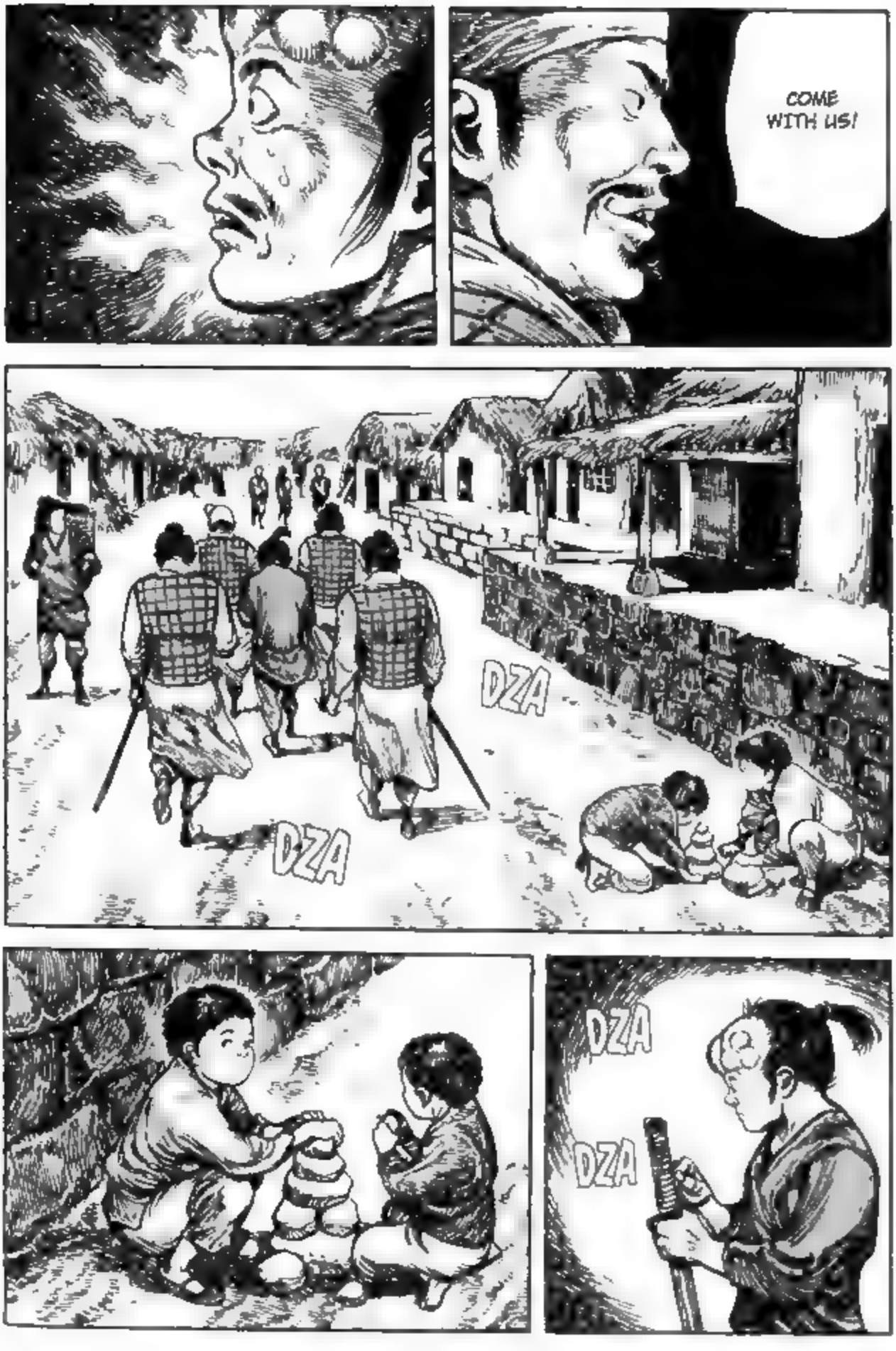
?
THE CHILDREN USUALLY PLAY HERE
ONCE, I USED TO COME HERE TOO
THIS YEAR, THERE WAS AN EARTHQUAKE, AND IT LEFT SOMETHING STRANGE BEHIND
SOME-THING STRANGE?

FFF
PTCH
PTCH

FROM THE BOOK "HISTORICAL MEMORIES".
THE YEAR WHEN THE KING OF SHIN CONQUERED
KAN (230 B.C.) A GREAT EARTHQUAKE TOOK
PLACE, THE CHINESE PEOPLE HAVE SINCE USED OIL.
THEY GAVE IT VARIOUS NAMES, AMONG THEM,
"THE BURNING WATER". THE WORD THAT IS USED
TODAY, "MINERAL OIL", HAS ONLY BEEN
IN USE FOR NINE HUNDRED YEARS.

NOW, I'LL GO TO THE CITY TO GATHER SOME INFORMATION
I'LL TELL YOU TOO, I REFUSE TO LET THESE CHILDREN FIGHT

KOBU!
JUST THE GUY I WAS LOOKING FOR!
!?
YOUR PARTNER DISGUISED HIMSELF AS A SOLDIER OF SHIN, BUT WE FOUND HIM OUT
HE TOLD US THAT YOU'RE THE HEAD OF "THE RATS"

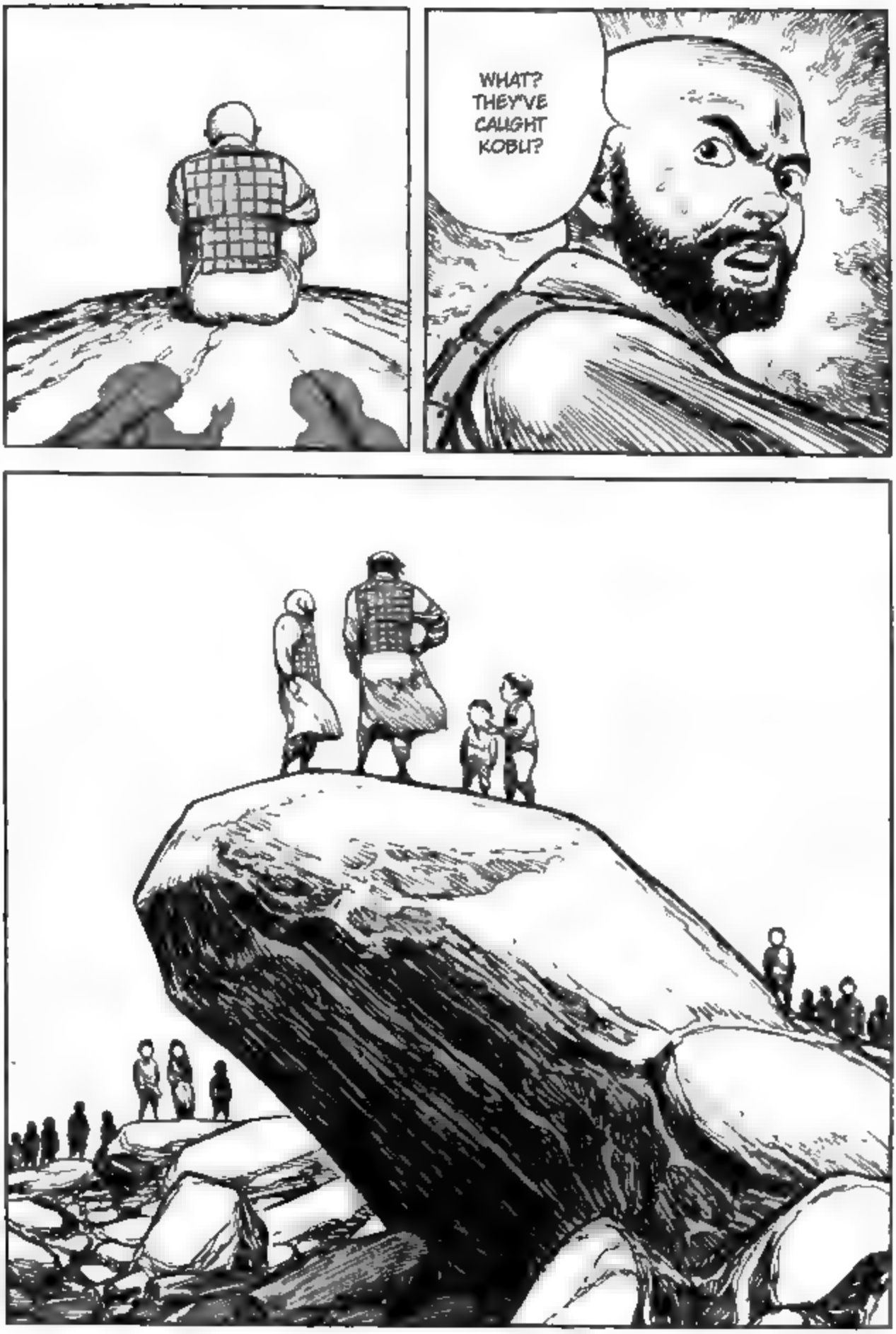

COME WITH US!
DZA
DZA
DZA
DZA

CLAC
HUH?

SHSHSH
GHYA AAAA!
TO ME, YOU'RE NOT EVEN HUMAN!!

YOU THREW YOURSELVES OVER MY WIFE!
YOU PIERCED HER WITH A SPEAR AND TOOK HER LIFE!
I'LL NEVER FORGIVE YOU!

TA
TA
TA
TA TA TA TA
DEATH TO ALL THE SOLDIERS OF SHIN!


WHAT? THEY'VE CAUGHT KOBU?

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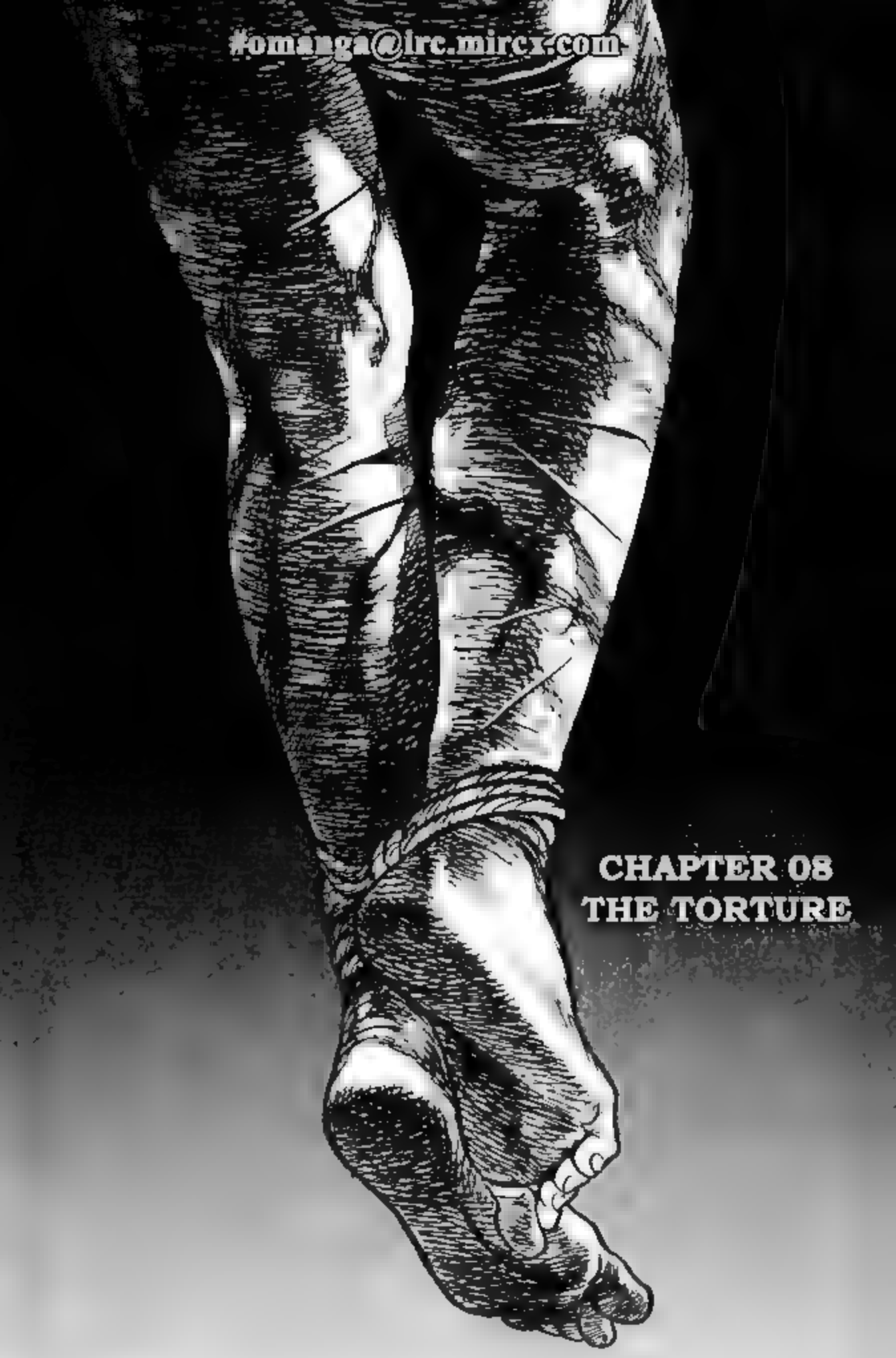
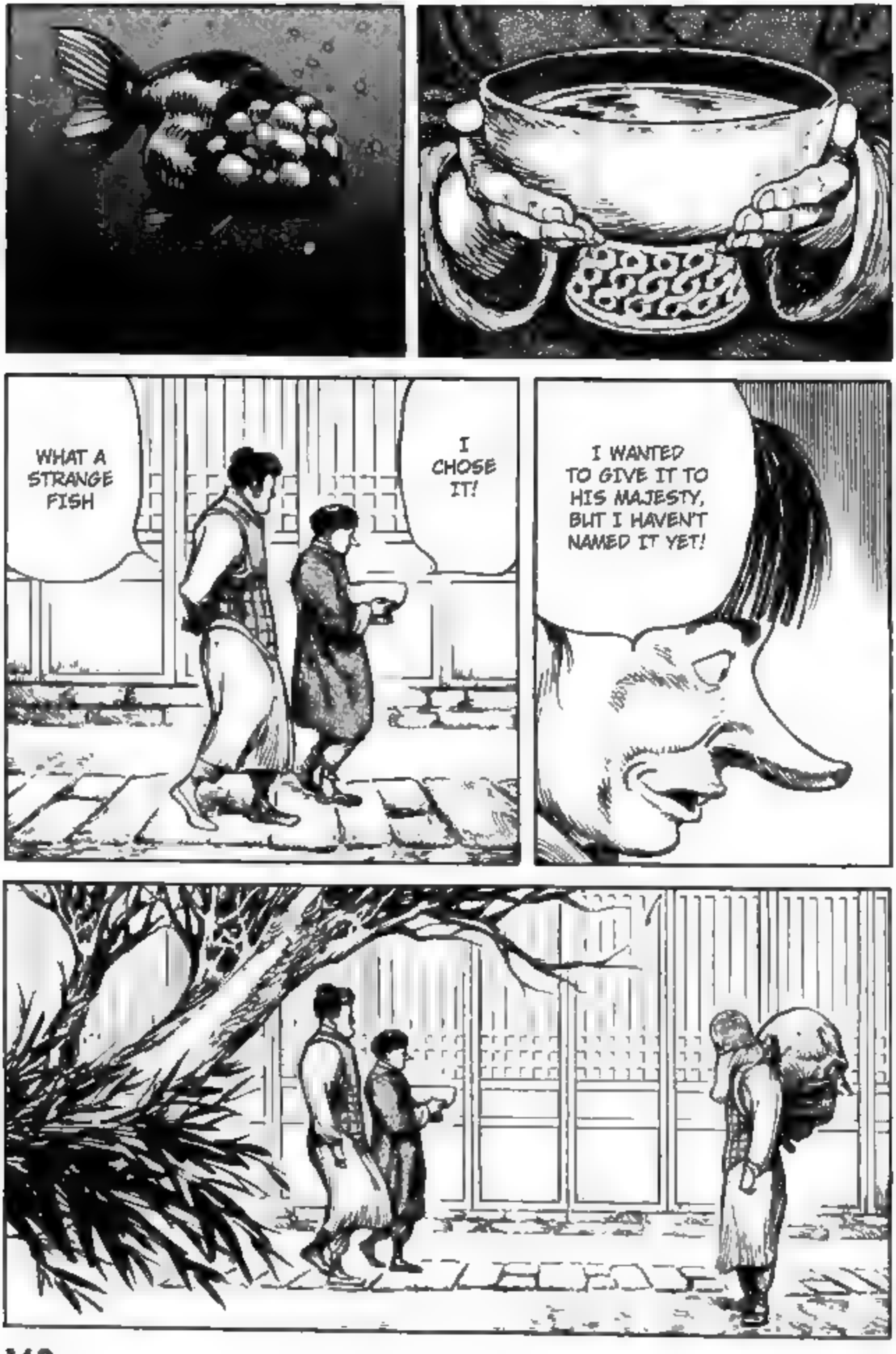


CHAPTER 08
THE TORTURE

EDITOR, SCANNER, & TRANSLATOR: JON
PROOFREADER: ZYPH


WHAT A STRANGE FISH
I CHOSE IT!
I WANTED TO GIVE IT TO HIS MAJESTY, BUT I HAVEN'T NAMED IT YET!

MISTER SETSUHEI, THERE'S A SOLDIER HERE FROM THE INSECT DIVISION THAT YOU'RE SO PROUD OF!
PFEUH
I GATHERED ALL THE LOCUST EGGS!
WONDER-FUL!
OH
OH
HOH
OH
.....
THEN, AS PLANNED, WE'LL INVADE THE COUNTRY OF TCHO, HEHEHE!

AH, I FORGOT ...
KAKURI IS IN THIS CITY
HE MUST BE WITH "THE RATS", THE RESISTANCE. BUT WE'VE CAUGHT THEIR LEADER
WE'LL ARREST KAKURI IN A MATTER OF HOURS
HEH HE HE HE!

OH! I HAVE AN IDEA!
WHAT'S HE CALLED?
KOBU I THINK ..

AH YES, YOUR NAME FITS YOU ...
NOW, TELL US WHERE YOUR FRIENDS ARE HIDING!
WHERE'S KAKURI?

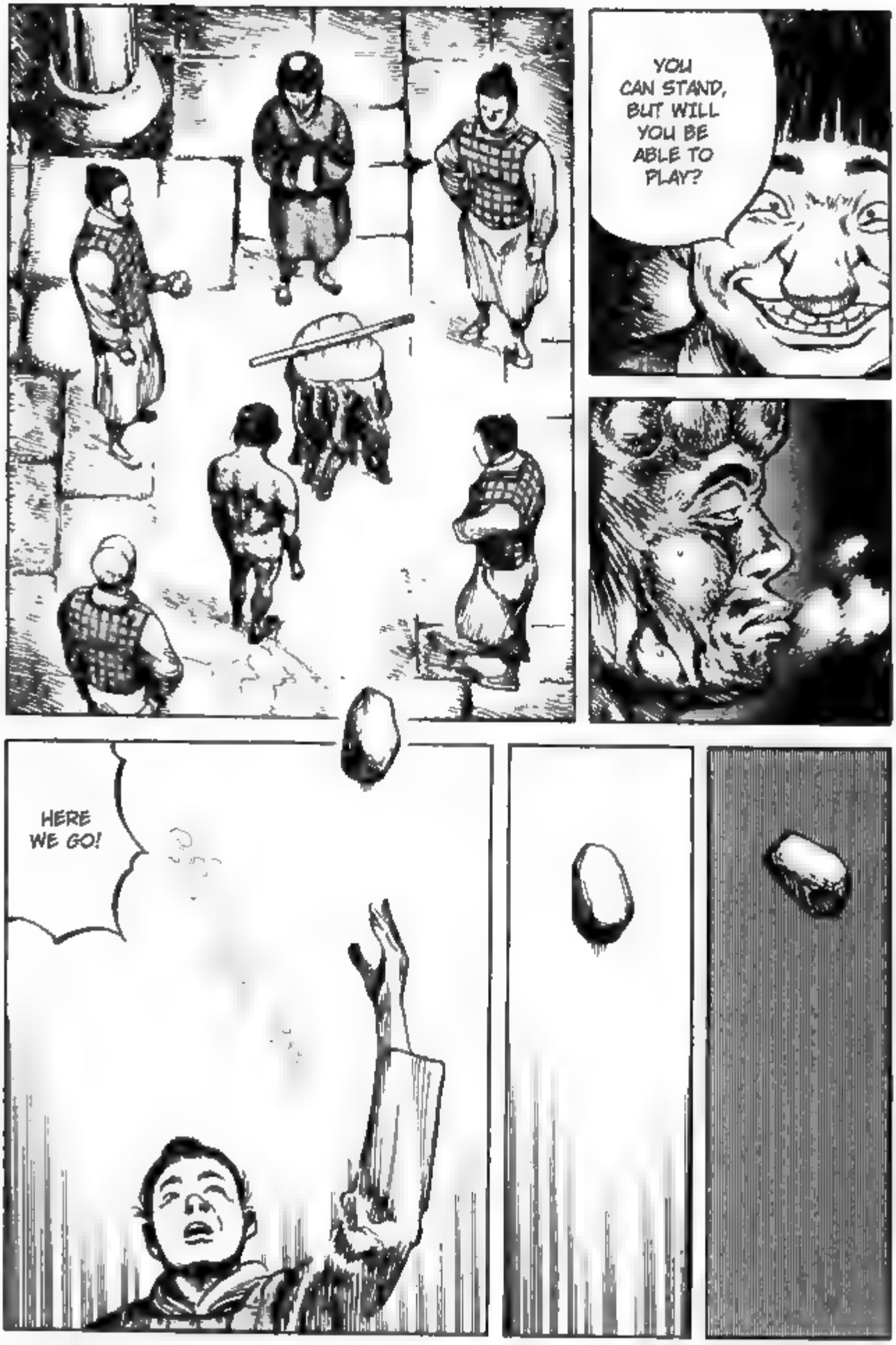
SHHHOUOUH

GALA GALA

TOC
SINCE THE SOLDIERS OF SHIN AREN'T HERE ALREADY ...
THEY PROBABLY DON'T KNOW WHERE WE ARE YET!
BUT WHY WERE THEY SO DESPERATE TO CATCH KOBU?
IF THEY'D FOLLOWED HIM HERE, THEY WOULD HAVE FOUND US TOO!

THEY MUST BE SHORT ON TIME
THEIR KING WILL UNDOUBTEDLY ARRIVE HERE TOMORROW
THIS EVENING IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO WORK ALL NIGHT TO PREPARE THE ATTACK AGAINST THE KING. FOR KOBU, IT'S A SHAME BUT WE'LL HAVE TO GIVE UP ON HIM

NOT IF YOU KEEP CALLING ME NAMES... IT'S OUT OF THE QUESTION!
YOU WILL TELL US!
PLAY A GAME OF STICK WITH ME, IF YOU WIN, I WILL SPEAK!
A GAME OF "STICK" ?


YOU CAN STAND, BUT WILL YOU BE ABLE TO PLAY?
HERE WE GO!

TOC
SSS
SSS
PAF!
HIH!

CHAA-AH

KOBU!
GET HIM!
TAH

PIF
PAF

STOP!
...

DON'T
TOUCH MY
WIFE!
...

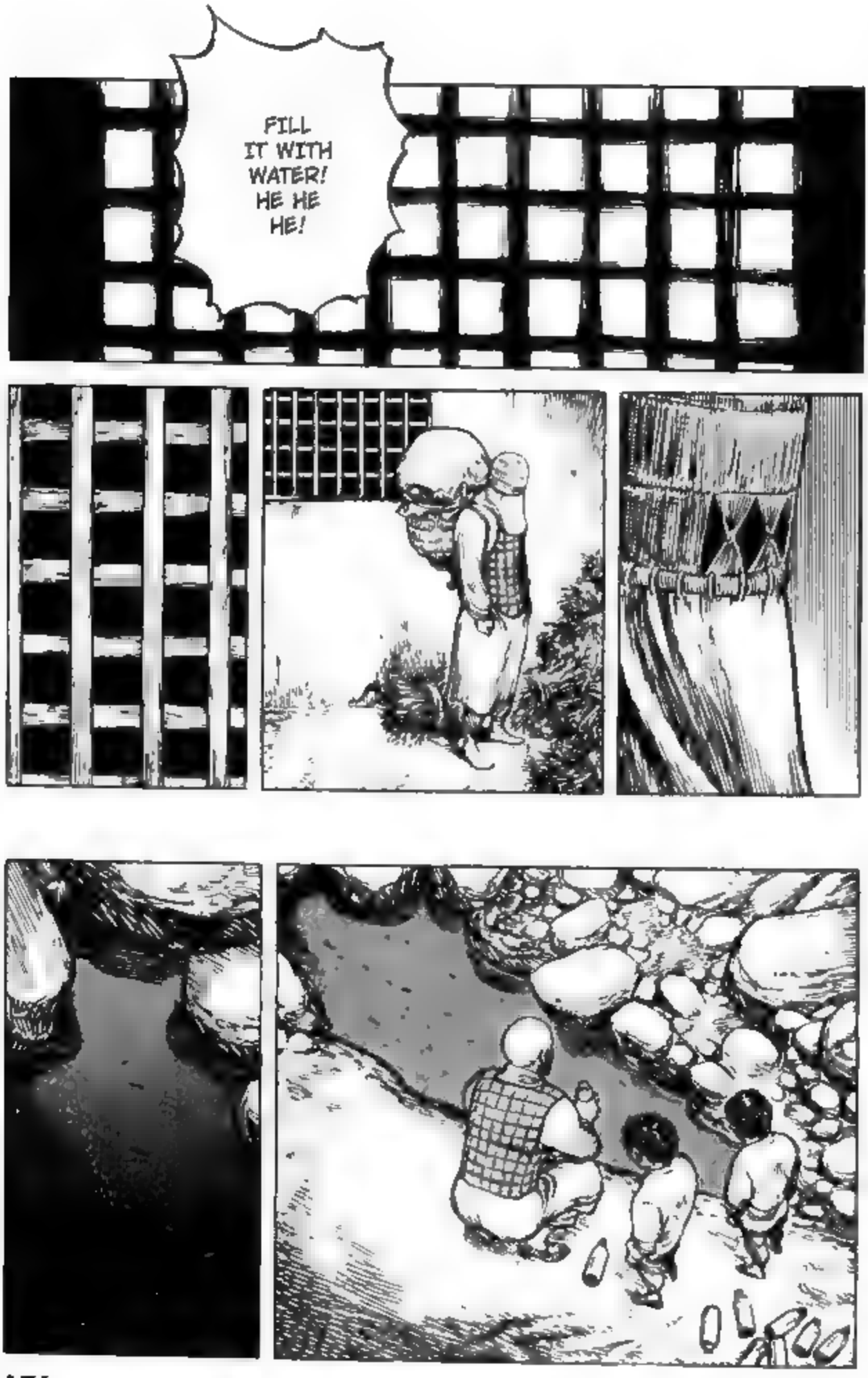
HOPLA
HOPLA
HOPLA
HOPLA
HOPLA
STOP IT!

AFTER PLAYING WITH HER ...
GRRR
GRRR
YOU SPIT AT HER AND TOOK HER LIFE!

DIE, YOU FUCKING MAGGOTS!

GRRR

HANG HIM UPSIDE DOWN!


FILL IT WITH WATER! HE HE HE!

KAKURI!
I WON'T GIVE UP ON KOBU!
NOT AFTER HEARING THE STORY ABOUT HIS WIFE ...
LET ME GO THERE, I WILL SAVE HIM!

YUNJI! DON'T DIE!
YUNJI LEFT AND WENT TO THE ENEMY'S LAIR FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF SAVING KOBU!

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CHAPTER 09

THE RESCUE

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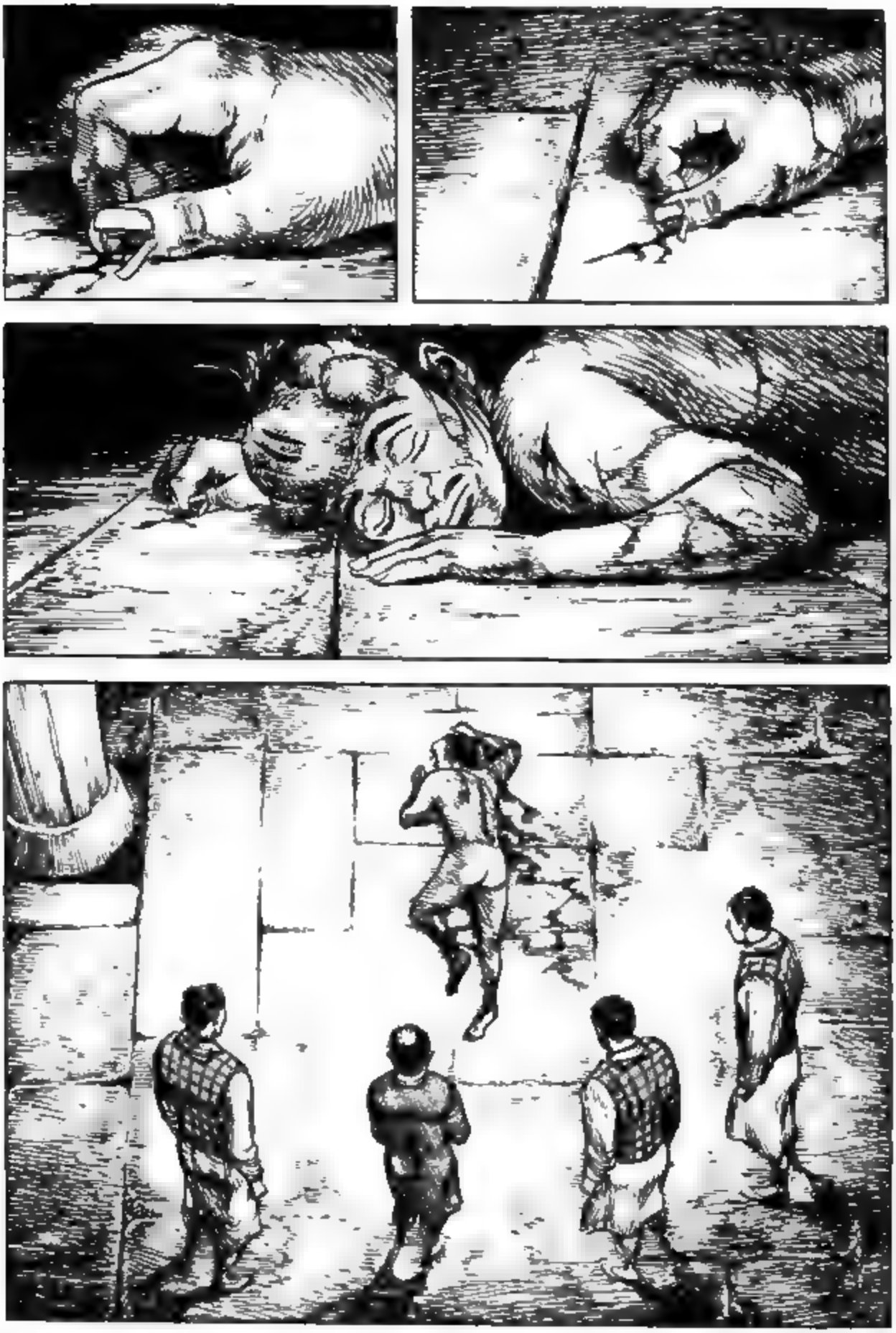
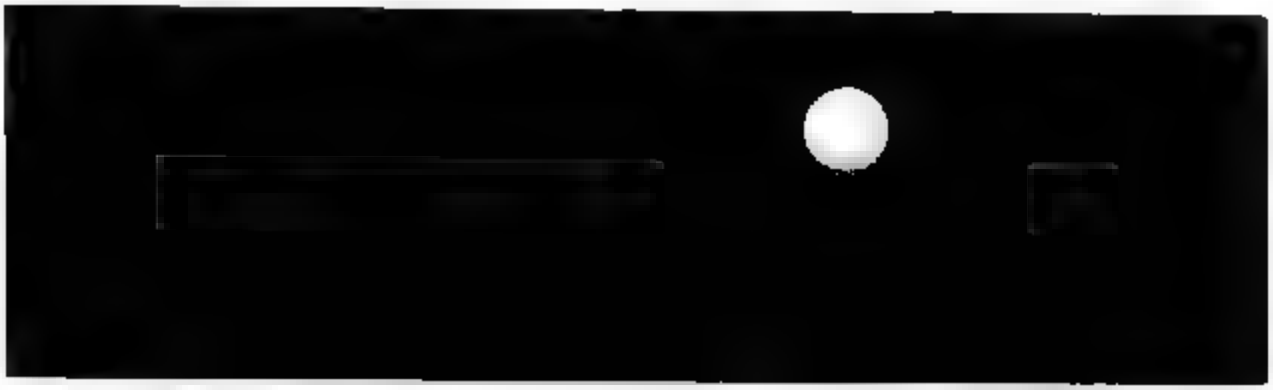
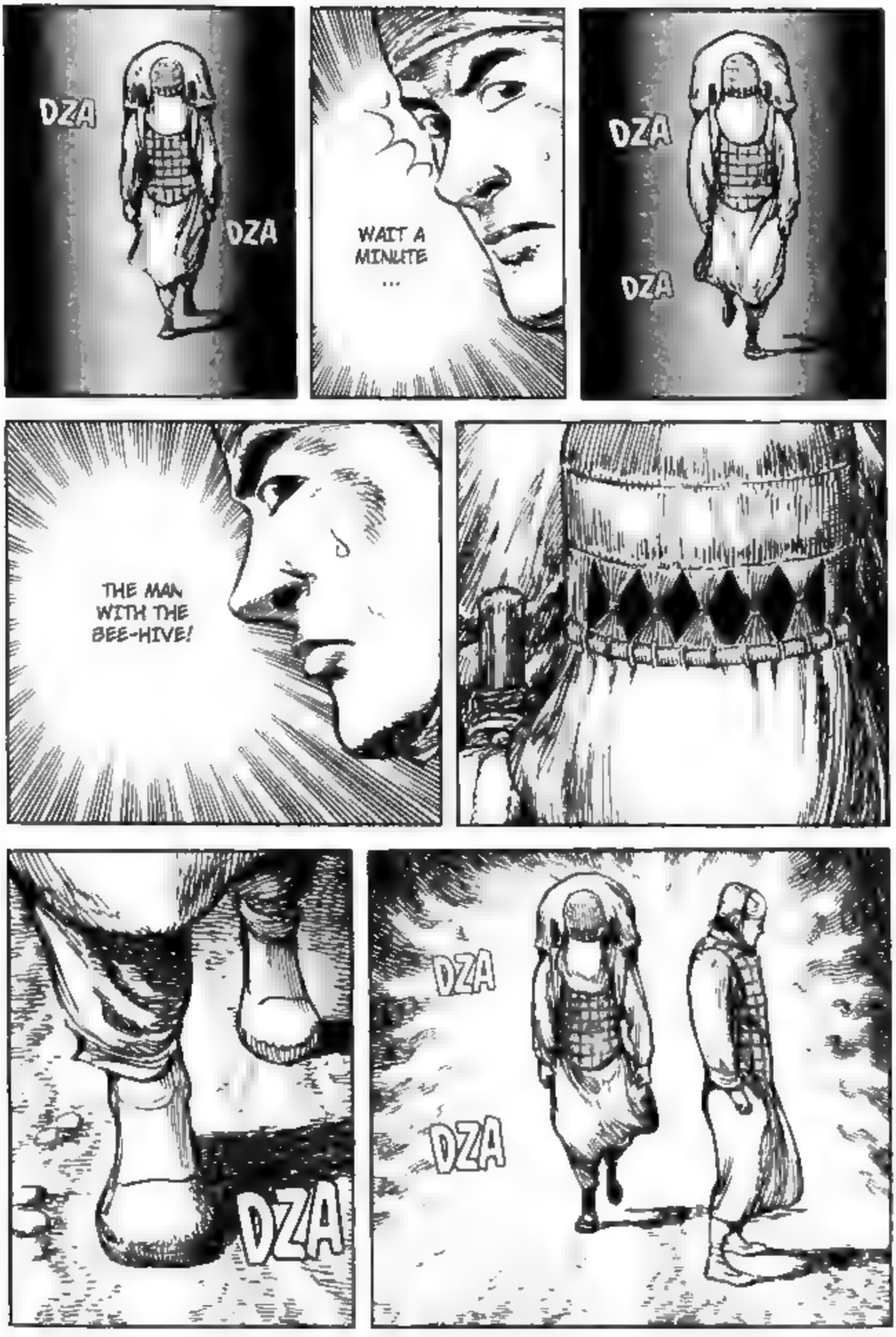
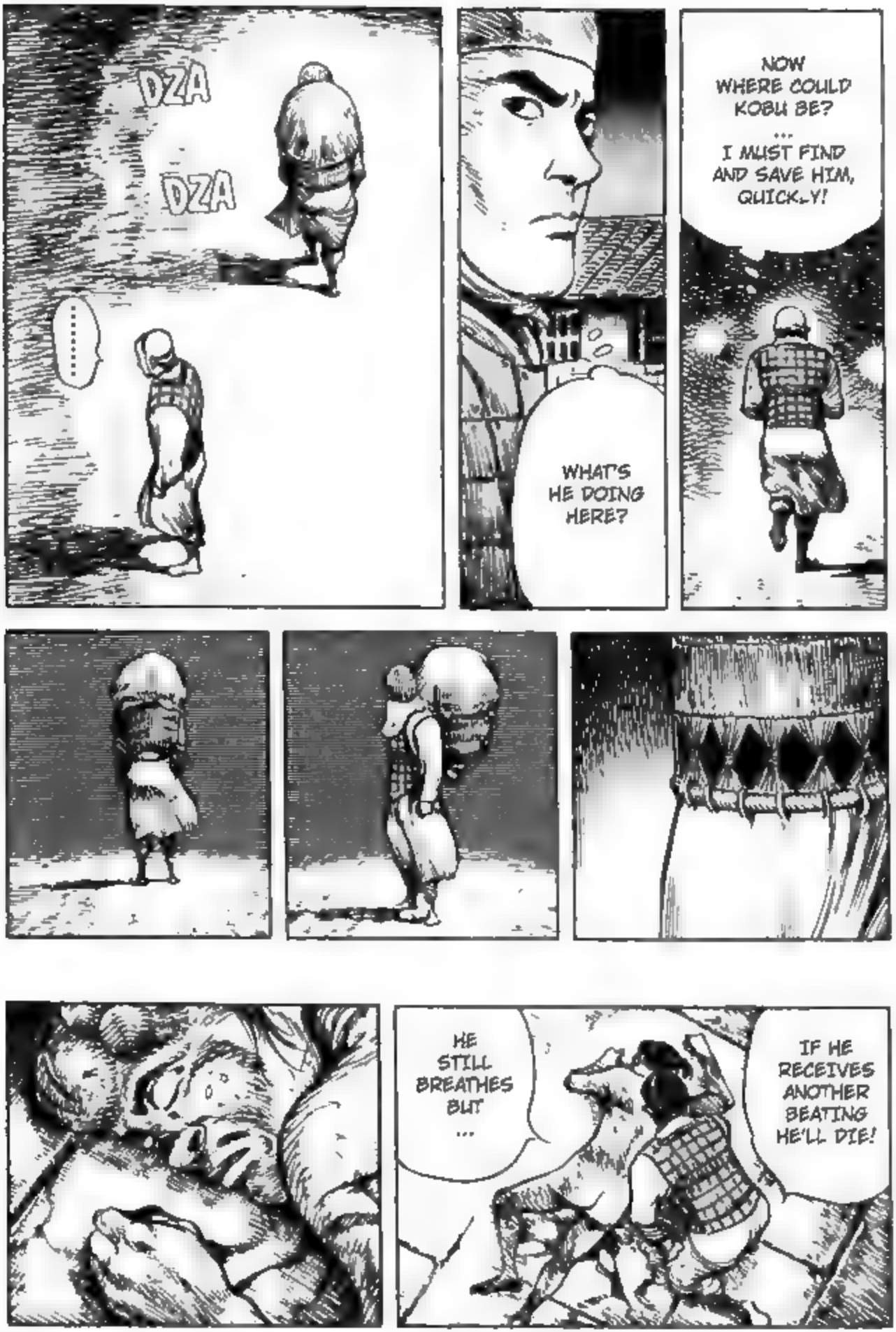


IS HE DEAD?



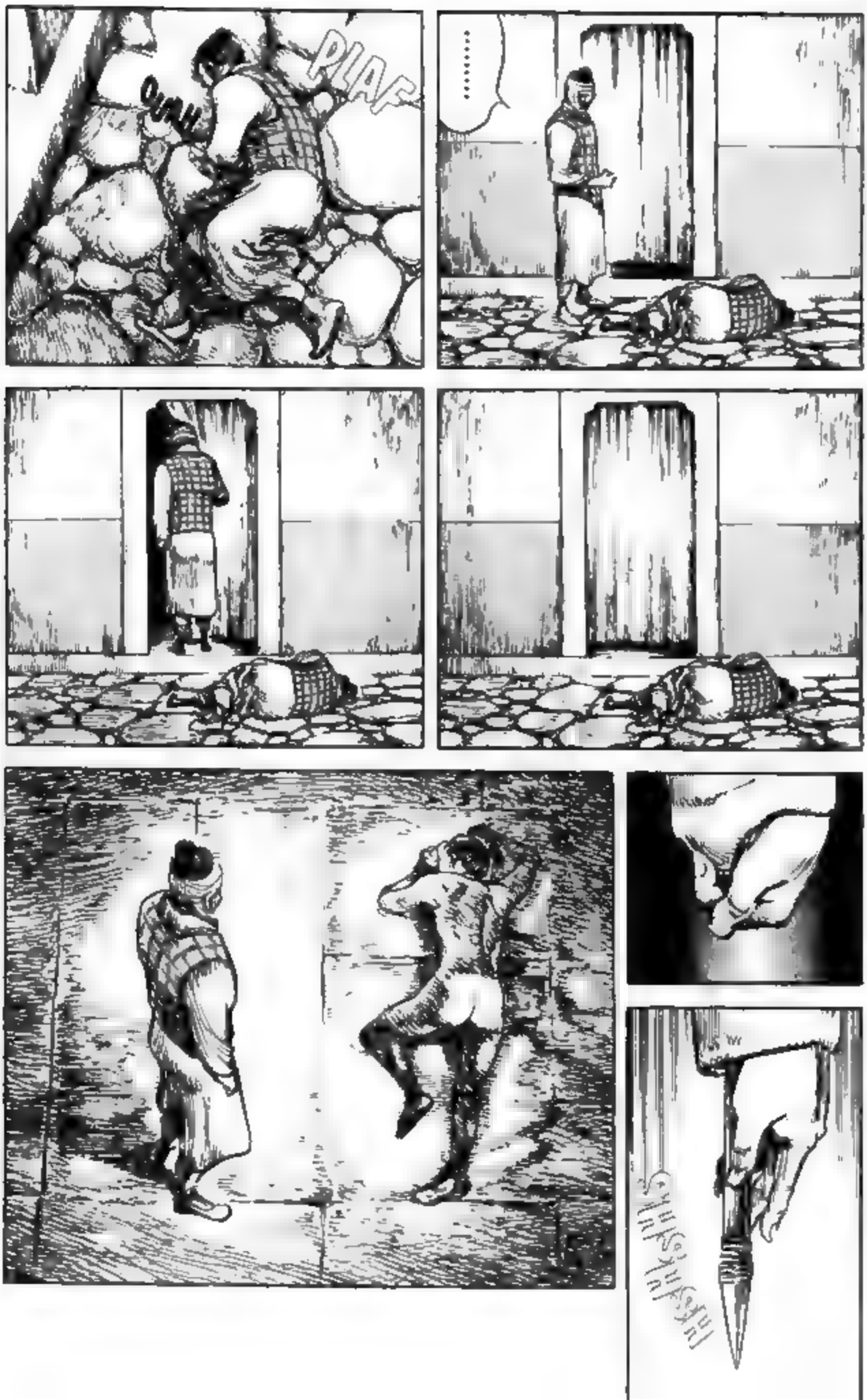
YUNJI HAD GONE THERE ALONE TO RESCUE KOBU, THE HEAD OF THE RESISTANCE CALLED "THE RATS"
WE'VE BEEN TOLD THAT HIS MAJESTY, THE KING, WILL ARRIVE TOMORROW!
PSCH
PSCH
KAKURI HAD NOT BEEN MISTAKEN, THE KING OF SHIN ARRIVES TOMORROW!


DZA
DZA
WAIT A MINUTE ...
DZA
DZA
THE MAN WITH THE BEE-HIVE!
DZA
DZA
DZA


DZA
DZA
.....
WHAT'S HE DOING HERE?
NOW WHERE COULD KOBU BE?
...
I MUST FIND AND SAVE HIM, QUICKLY!
HE STILL BREATHES BUT
...
IF HE RECEIVES ANOTHER BEATING HE'LL DIE!

DAMN IT!
GUARDS! LET HIM REST FOR NOW!
THE RATS WILL SURELY TRY SOMETHING AGAINST THE KING TOMORROW
IT IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY THAT HE REVEALS WHERE THEY HIDE, AND THEN WE'LL COUNTER THEIR ATTACK!

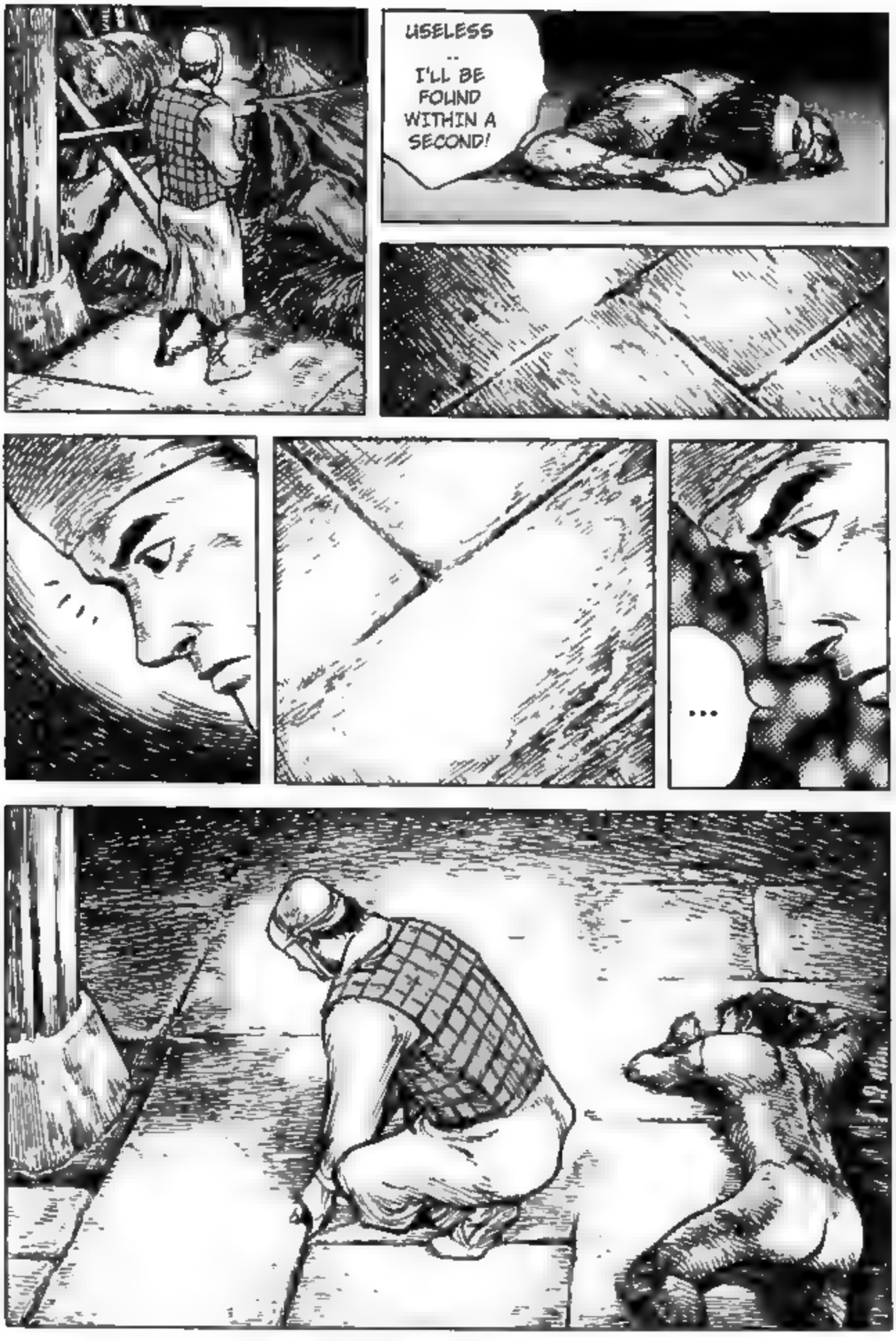
ARE YOU SURE YOU SHOULD BE UP AND WALKING?
ICHO


PLAF
OUAH !
.....

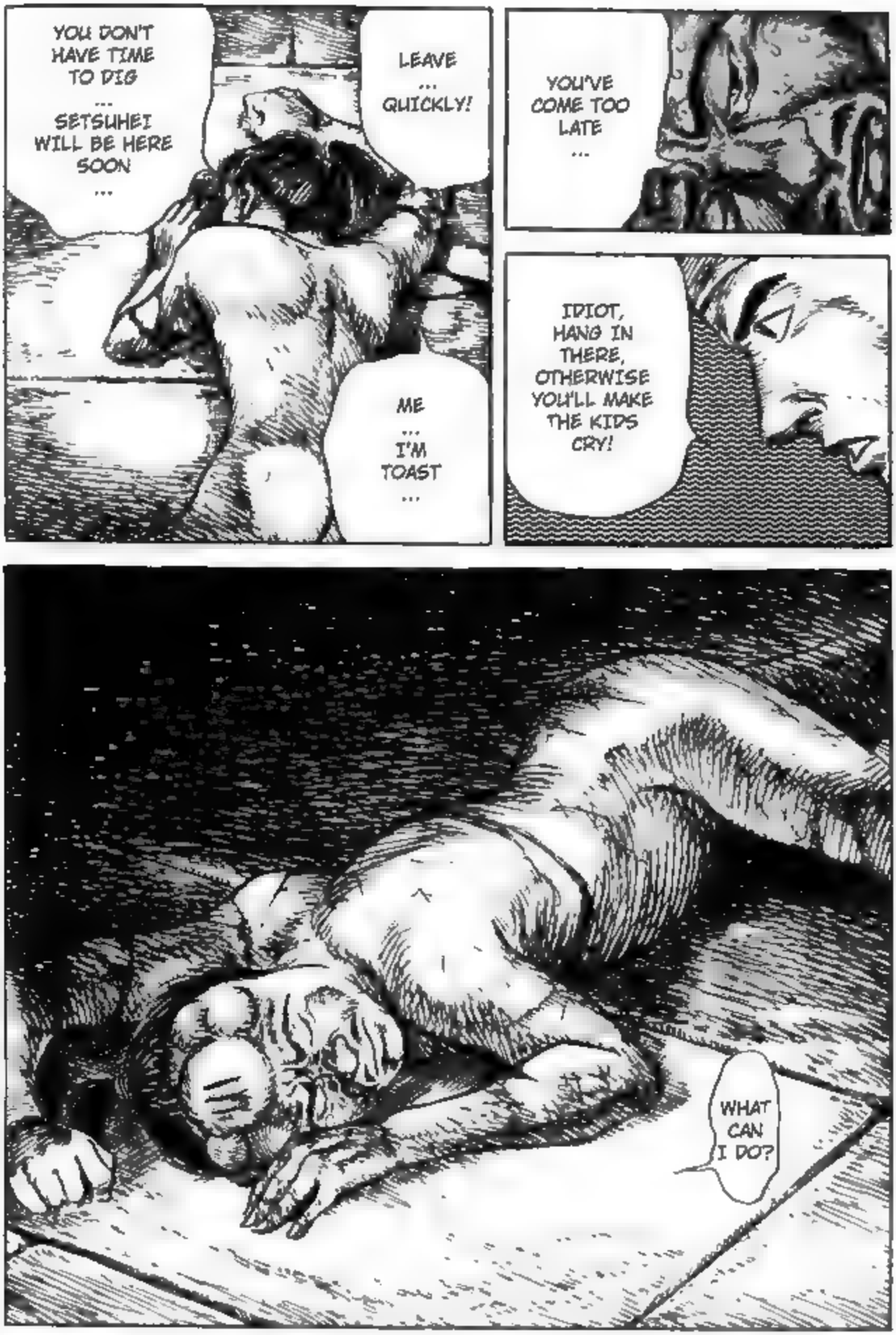
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO GAVE ME THIS WOUND!
YOU SHALL PAY WITH YOUR LIFE!

TAH
ICHAK

PLAF
YUN...
JI...
OH! YOU'RE IN PRETTY BAD SHAPE!
THE KIDS ... DID THEY COME?
NO, KAKURI AND THE KIDS ARE PREPARING THE ATTACK AGAINST THE KING OF SHIN
THEN ... IT'S JUST YOU ...
DO YOU THINK YOU CAN WALK?
IMPOSSIBLE ... I CAN'T EVEN STAND UP ...
THAT'S BAD! THEN THE BEST THING I CAN DO, IS TO FIND YOU A PLACE TO HIDE

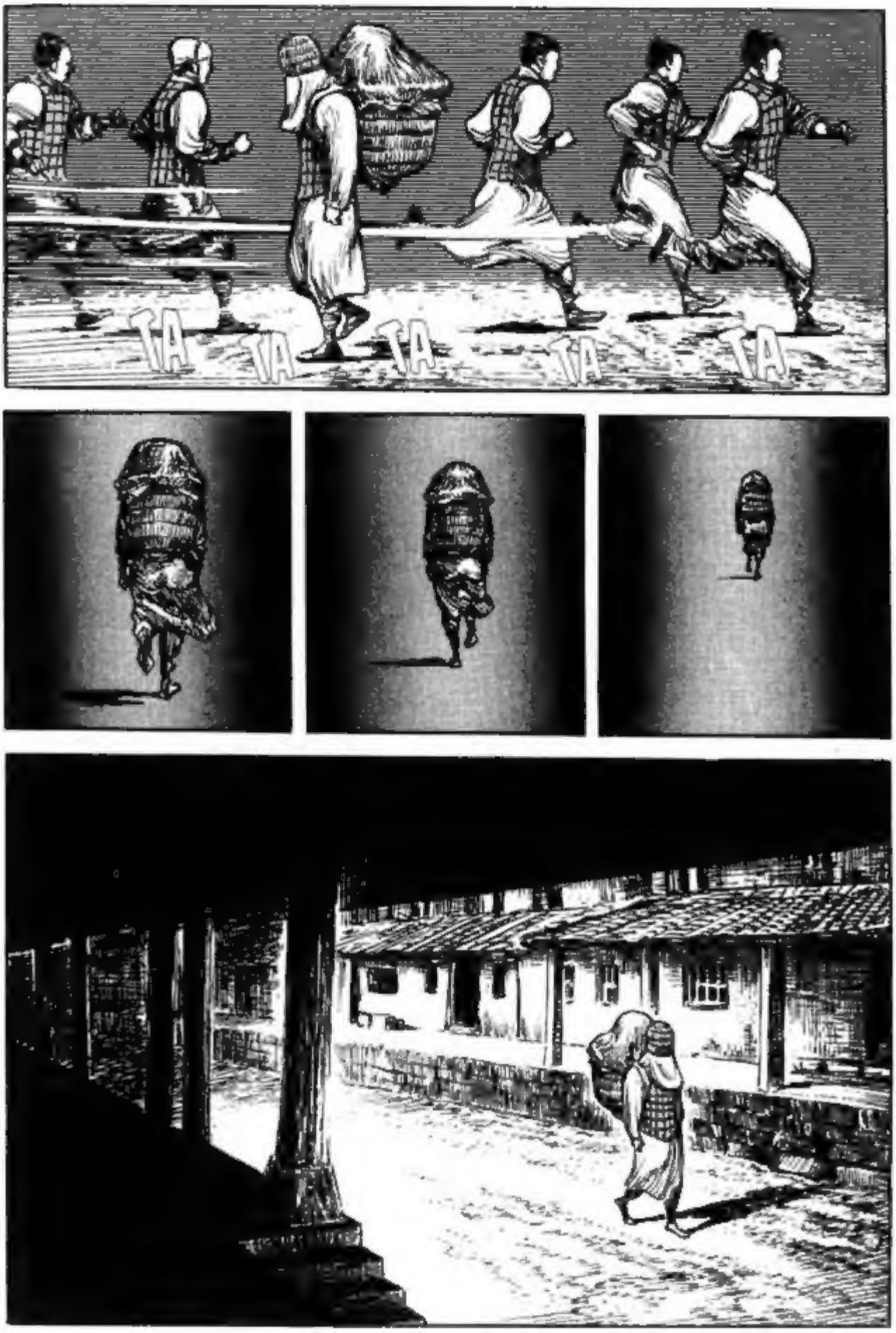

USELESS
..
I'LL BE FOUND WITHIN A SECOND!
...

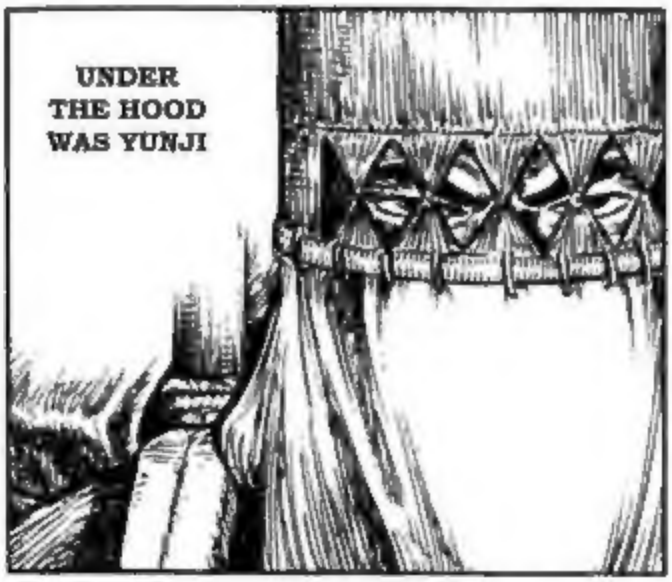
HNNN!
SHSS
THEY'LL NEVER GUESS THAT YOU'RE UNDER THEIR FEET!

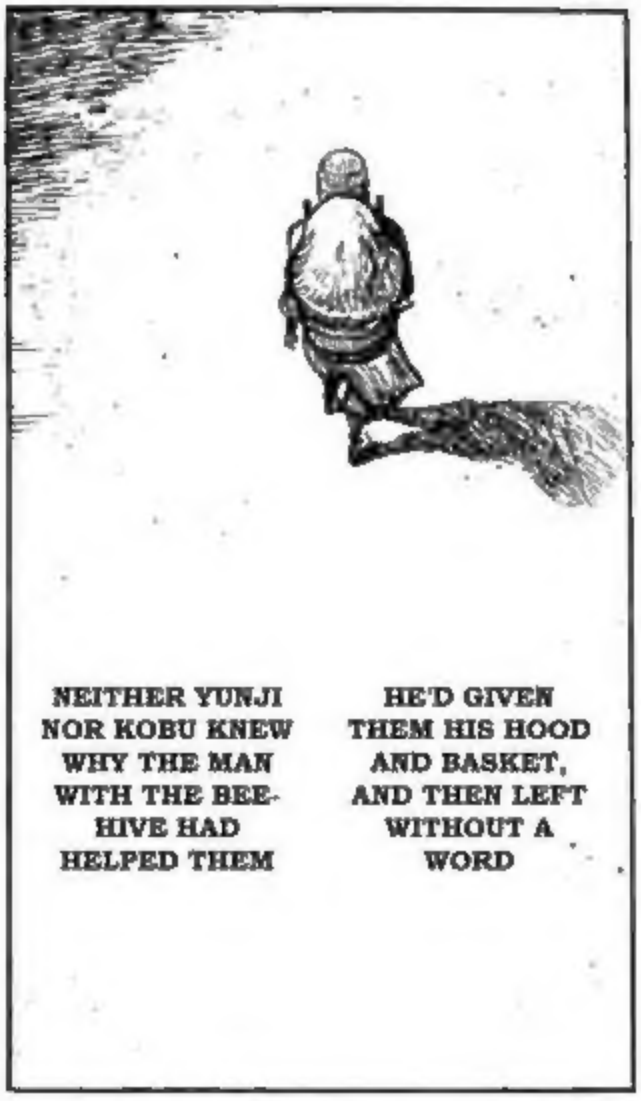

YOU DON'T HAVE TIME TO DIG ... SETSUHEI WILL BE HERE SOON ...
LEAVE ... QUICKLY!
ME ... I'M TOAST ...
YOU'VE COME TOO LATE ...
IDIOT, HANG IN THERE, OTHERWISE YOU'LL MAKE THE KIDS CRY!
WHAT CAN I DO?

VLAF
!!
KOBU!
HE HAS
ESCAPED!

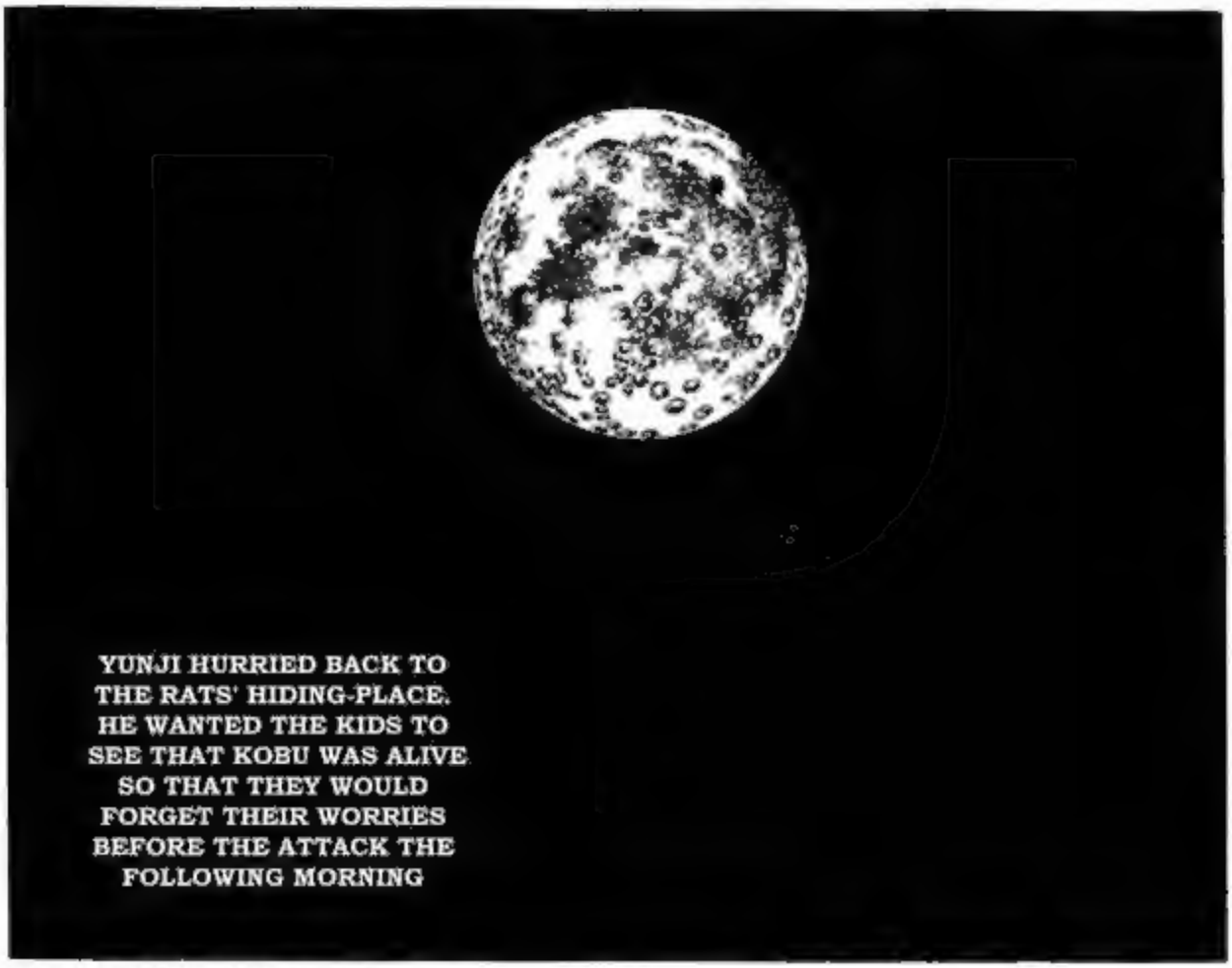
TA TA TA TA
CATCH HIM!
TA TA TA
FIND HIM, HE COULDN'T HAVE GONE FAR!
HURRY! SEARCH ALL THE BARRACKS
TA TA TA TA TA TA


TA
TA
TA
TA
TA


UNDER THE HOOD WAS YUNJI


NEITHER YUNJI NOR KOBU KNEW WHY THE MAN WITH THE BEE-HIVE HAD HELPED THEM
HE'D GIVEN THEM HIS HOOD AND BASKET, AND THEN LEFT WITHOUT A WORD

AND IN THE BASKET, KOBU HAD REPLACED THE BEE-HIVE


YUNJI HURRIED BACK TO THE RATS' HIDING-PLACE. HE WANTED THE KIDS TO SEE THAT KOBU WAS ALIVE SO THAT THEY WOULD FORGET THEIR WORRIES BEFORE THE ATTACK THE FOLLOWING MORNING

END OF VOLUME 06